

As Passed by the House

**128th General Assembly
Regular Session
2009-2010**

Sub. H. B. No. 352

Representative Bolon

**Cosponsors: Representatives Fende, Luckie, Williams, B., Yuko, Belcher,
Chandler, Domenick, Driehaus, Foley, Garland, Harris, Harwood, Heard,
Lehner, Letson, Mallory, Pillich, Walter, Weddington, Winburn**

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A B I L L

To amend sections 6109.24, 6109.31, and 6109.32 and 1
to enact section 6109.99 of the Revised Code to 2
require certain public water systems to submit 3
technical, managerial, and financial capability 4
plans under certain noncompliance or public health 5
risk conditions, to implement capability assurance 6
plans, and to add prohibitions and penalties to 7
the Safe Drinking Water Law. 8

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 6109.24, 6109.31, and 6109.32 be 9
amended and section 6109.99 of the Revised Code be enacted to read 10
as follows: 11

Sec. 6109.24. (A) A public water system that is a community 12
water system, or that is not a community water system and serves a 13
nontransient population, and that proposes to commence providing 14
water to the public after October 1, 1999, shall include with the 15
submission of plans required under section 6109.07 of the Revised 16
Code documentation that demonstrates the technical, managerial, 17

and financial capability of the system to comply with this chapter 18
and rules adopted under it. The director of environmental 19
protection shall adopt, and may amend and rescind, rules pursuant 20
to section 6109.04 of the Revised Code establishing requirements 21
governing the demonstration of technical, managerial, and 22
financial capability for the purposes of this section. 23

(B)(1) The director also may adopt rules pursuant to section 24
6109.04 of the Revised Code that require a public water system 25
that is a community water system or that is not a community water 26
system and serves a nontransient population to submit a technical, 27
managerial, and financial capability plan for the system if either 28
of the following applies: 29

(a) The system has demonstrated a lack of technical, 30
managerial, or financial capability through substantial, repeated, 31
and documented noncompliance with this chapter and the rules 32
adopted under it. 33

(b) The system has been documented as operating in a manner 34
that creates an unacceptable risk to public health or that creates 35
an unacceptable risk of contamination of a public water supply. 36

(2) The rules shall require such a public water system to 37
submit and implement a capability assurance plan that has been 38
approved by the director. 39

(C) The director may deny approval of plans submitted under 40
section 6109.07 of the Revised Code if the public water system 41
that submitted the plans fails to demonstrate technical, 42
managerial, and financial capability in accordance with this 43
section and rules adopted under it. 44

Sec. 6109.31. (A) No person shall violate this chapter, ~~an~~ a 45
rule adopted under it, or any order or term or condition of a 46
license, license renewal, variance, or exemption granted by the 47

director of environmental protection under it. Each day of 48
noncompliance is a separate violation. 49

(B) No person shall make any false material statement or 50
representation in an application, license, record, report, or 51
other document that is required to be submitted to the director of 52
environmental protection or the attorney general under this 53
chapter, rules adopted under it, or any order or term or condition 54
of a license, license renewal, variance, or exemption granted by 55
the director under it. 56

(C) No person shall alter, change, falsify, conceal, or 57
purposefully omit any sample that is to be collected according to 58
any reporting requirement established under this chapter or a rule 59
adopted under it. 60

(D) No person shall tamper with, alter, or interfere with the 61
operation of a public water system without authorization of the 62
owner or operator of the water system or the director of 63
environmental protection. 64

Sec. 6109.32. The director of environmental protection may on 65
~~his~~ the director's own initiative investigate or make inquiries 66
into any suspected violation of section 6109.31 of the Revised 67
Code. 68

The attorney general, upon written request by the director, 69
shall bring an action for injunction or other appropriate civil 70
action or criminal prosecution against any person violating or 71
threatening to violate ~~such~~ that section. In an action for 72
injunction to enforce any final order of the director, the finding 73
by the director, after hearing, is prima-facie evidence of the 74
facts found therein. 75

Sec. 6109.99. (A) Whoever recklessly violates section 6109.31 76
of the Revised Code is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined 77

not more than ten thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than one 78
year, or both. Each day of violation constitutes a separate 79
offense. 80

(B) Whoever knowingly violates division (B), (C), or (D) of 81
section 6109.31 of the Revised Code is guilty of a felony and 82
shall be fined not more than twenty-five thousand dollars or 83
imprisoned for not more than four years, or both. Each day of 84
violation constitutes a separate offense. 85

(C) Whoever recklessly or knowingly violates division (A) of 86
section 6109.31 of the Revised Code and the violation poses a 87
significant threat to or causes significant harm to public health 88
is guilty of a felony and shall be fined not more than twenty-five 89
thousand dollars or imprisoned for not more than four years, or 90
both. Each day of violation constitutes a separate offense. 91

Section 2. That existing sections 6109.24, 6109.31, and 92
6109.32 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 93