



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

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H.B. 417

130th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Thompson, Becker, Stebelton, Roegner, Retherford, Sprague, J. Adams, Boose, Hood, Young

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires certain governmental agencies, when contracting for water or wastewater utility service improvement projects, to procure only piping material that meets the current recognized standards issued by ASTM International and the American Water Works Association, or their successor organizations.
- Requires the governmental agencies to make certain considerations regarding the piping material, such as considering the material to be suitable for a project only if its use is commensurate with sound engineering practices and the project requirements.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Requirement for governmental agencies to procure certain piping material

The bill makes requirements for governmental agencies when contracting for water or wastewater utility service improvement projects. A governmental agency is defined to include a county, township, municipal corporation, or any other body corporate and politic that is responsible for government activities in a geographic area smaller than that of the state, or any organized body, agency, institution, or other entity established by Ohio law for the exercise of any function of state government.

The bill requires the agency, when contracting for the water or wastewater utility service improvement project, to procure only piping material that meets the current recognized standards issued by ASTM International and the American Water Works Association, or their successor organizations.

Considerations

Despite the fact that the bill *requires* governmental agencies to procure piping material that meet the standards specified above, the bill also requires the agencies to make certain considerations regarding the material. It appears that these considerations are to be made as part of the project-planning stage. The requirement to make these considerations may conflict with the requirement to procure piping material that meets the specified standards. In other words, the bill appears to encourage the agencies to make their own determinations as to whether piping material that meets the standards is suitable for specific projects. The implication is that if the material is determined unsuitable, it should not be used. Below are the specific considerations that the agencies are required to make:

- Consider piping material that meets the specified standards to be suitable for the project only if the material's use is commensurate with sound engineering practices and the project requirements.
- Consider the quality, sustainability, durability, and corrosion resistance of the piping material that meets the specified standards in relation to the project requirements.
- Consider the up-front cost of installation of the piping material that meets the specified standards.¹

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	01-28-14

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¹ R.C. 153.75.

