HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 1822 FILED ON: 1/18/2023

HOUSE . . . . . No. 808

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Denise C. Garlick

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to emergency water management plans.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
Denise C. Garlick	*13th Norfolk*	*1/18/2023*

HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 1822 FILED ON: 1/18/2023

HOUSE . . . . . No. 808

By Representative Garlick of Needham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 808) of Denise C. Garlick relative to emergency water management plans. Environment and Natural Resources.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. *4536* OF 2021-2022.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)

An Act relative to emergency water management plans.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, a supplier of water in the Commonwealth shall annually report a summary of each emergency response plan it prepares or maintains to each municipality it serves and the department of environmental protection. Each summary report must include substantive information on the supplier's emergency response contingency planning and resources, as well as any updates to the plan made since the previous annual report, but nothing in this section shall be construed as to require any supplier of water to disclose sensitive or proprietary information that may constitute an operational or public safety risk. Failure to provide an emergency water management plan report may be subject to penalties established by the department. For purposes of this Act, the term "supplier of water" shall mean any person who owns or operates a system

for the public provision of water for human consumption, through pipes or other constructed conveyances, including without limitation collection, treatment, storage, and distribution facilities.

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, a supplier of water shall annually provide copies of statistical reports prepared for the department of environmental protection to municipalities they serve.

SECTION 3. Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, a supplier of water shall annually provide copies of consumer confidence reports prepared for the department of environmental protection to the municipalities in which affected customers live.

SECTION 4. Within 180 days of the passage of this Act, the department of environmental protection shall promulgate regulations to require suppliers of water to provide financial relief to customers who experienced a water outage longer than 48 hours in the previous calendar year. Said regulations shall include a pro-rated formula for average cost impact on residential, commercial, and industrial customers who experience significant outages, as defined in regulation. Said regulations shall allow suppliers to provide relief in the form of bill credits or direct payments and shall include reporting requirements for suppliers to report outage and payment data to the department.