S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

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I N S E N A T E

January 22, 2014

Introduced by Sen. DILAN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to requiring the department of health to implement a drinking water information program designed to provide the public with access to information and reports concerning the state's public drinking water systems and to participate in the federal water watch program

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The public health law is amended by adding a new section 1152-b to read as follows:

S 1152-B. WATER WATCH PROGRAM. 1. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A DRINKING WATER INFORMATION PROGRAM DESIGNED TO PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND REPORTS CONCERNING THE STATE'S PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, BASIC SYSTEM INFORMATION, INCLUDING SYSTEM IDENTIFICATION NUMBER, NAME AND TYPE; THE RESULTS OF COLIFORM AND CHEMICAL TESTING; CONTAMINANT CONCENTRATIONS; DEPARTMENT CONTACTS; PUBLIC NOTICES; VIOLATIONS; AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE STATE. SUCH INFORMATION SHALL BE COMPILED FROM THE MOST RECENT REPORTS AVAILABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT AND SHALL BE ACCESSIBLE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC THROUGH A LINK CONSPICUOUSLY NOTED ON THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE. INFORMATION SHALL BE UPDATED REGULARLY TO REFLECT ANY CHANGES IN INFORMATION CONCERNING ONE OR MORE PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS AND TO REFLECT THE MOST RECENT REPORTS CONCERNING ONE OR MORE DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS.

2. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL COORDINATE WITH THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO ENSURE THAT THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE THROUGH THE DRINKING WATER INFORMATION PROGRAM WEBSITE MAY BE ACCESSED THROUGH THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S "DRINKING WATER WATCH" WEBSITE.

S 2. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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