

STATE OF NEW YORK

7630

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

December 29, 2021

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

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to authorizing and directing the department of environmental conservation to conduct a study of the water supply and water management in the state

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The environmental conservation law is amended by adding a
2 new section 15-1531 to read as follows:

3 § 15-1531. Water supply and water management study.

4 1. The department is hereby authorized and directed to conduct a study
5 of the water supply and water management in the state. Such study shall
6 include, but not be limited to:

7 a. the current status of the water supply in this state and any likely
8 changes in that status;

9 b. issues of regional and local drought effects, short-term and long-
10 term drought management efforts and the adequacy of drought preparation
11 throughout the state;

12 c. the status of current water conservation programs in this state;

13 d. the current state of each active management area and the level of
14 progress toward management goals in each active management area;

15 e. the status of any pending or likely litigation regarding surface
16 water adjudications or other water related litigation and the potential
17 impacts on this state's water supplies;

18 f. the status of Indian water rights settlements and related negoti-
19 ations that affect this state; and

20 g. other matters related to the reliability of this state's water
21 supplies, the responsibilities of the department and the adequacy of the
22 department's and other entities' resources to meet this state's water
23 management needs.

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

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1 2. The department may consult with any state or local office, agency,
2 department or political subdivision of this state that has information
3 relevant to the completion of this study and report.

4 3. On or before December thirty-first, two thousand twenty-four and in
5 odd numbered years thereafter, the department shall deliver a report of
6 the findings of the study conducted pursuant to subdivision one of this
7 section and any recommendations to the governor, the temporary president
8 of the senate, the speaker of the assembly, the chair of the senate
9 standing committee on environmental conservation and the chair of the
10 assembly standing committee on environmental conservation.

11 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.