



AN ACT TO AMEND THE NEW LAW

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1 Section 1. Section 45 of the code is repealed byt

2 "(a) Not later than July 1, 2017, the Water Planning Council,
3 established pursuant to section 25-33o, shall, within available
4 appropriations, prepare a state water plan for the management of the
5 water resources of the state. In developing such state water plan, the
6 Water Planning Council shall: (1) Design a unified planning program
7 and budget; (2) consider regional water and sewer facilities plans; (3)
8 identify the appropriate regions of the state for comprehensive water
9 planning; (4) identify the data needs and develop a consistent format
10 for submitting data to the council, applicable state agencies and
11 regional councils of governments for use in planning and permitting;
12 (5) consider the potential impact of climate change on the availability
13 and abundance of water resources and the importance of climate
14 resiliency; (6) seek involvement of interested parties; (7) solicit input
15 from the advisory group established pursuant to section 25-33o; (8)
16 consider individual water supply plans, water quality standards,
17 stream flow classifications, as described in regulations adopted

18 pursuant to section 26-141b, water utility coordinating committee
19 plans, the state plan of conservation and development, as described in
20 section 16a-30, and any other planning documents deemed necessary
21 by the council; (9) promote the adoption of municipal ordinances
22 based on the State of Connecticut Model Water Use Restriction
23 Ordinance for municipal water emergencies; and (10) examine
24 appropriate mechanisms for resolving conflicts related to the
25 implementation of the state water plan.

26 [\(i\) the new document](#)

27 (b) The state water plan developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this
28 section shall: (1) Identify the quantities and qualities of water that are
29 available for public water supply, health, economic, recreation and
30 environmental benefits on a regional basin scale considering both
31 surface water and groundwater; (2) identify present and projected
32 demands for water resources on a state-wide and regional basin scale;
33 (3) recommend the utilization of the state's water resources, including
34 surface and subsurface water, in a manner that balances public water
35 supply, economic development, recreation and ecological health; (4)
36 recommend steps to increase the climate resiliency of existing water
37 resources and infrastructure; (5) make recommendations for
38 technology and infrastructure upgrades, interconnections and such
39 major engineering works or special districts which may be necessary,
40 including the need, timing and general cost thereof; (6) recommend
41 land use and other measures, including an assessment of land
42 acquisition or land protection needs, where appropriate to ensure the
43 desired quality and abundance of water and to promote development
44 in concert with available water resources; (7) take into account desired
45 ecological, recreational, agricultural, industrial and commercial use of
46 water bodies; (8) inform residents of the state about the importance of
47 water-resource stewardship and conservation; (9) establish

48 conservation guidelines and incentives for consumer water
49 conservation with due consideration for energy efficiency; (10) develop
50 a water reuse policy with incentives for matching the quality of the
51 water to the use; (11) meet data collection and analysis needs to
52 provide for data driven water planning and permitting decisions; (12)
53 take into account the ecological, environmental, public health and
54 safety and economic impact that implementation of the state water
55 plan will have on the state; (13) include short and long-range objectives
56 and strategies to communicate and implement the plan; (14) seek to
57 incorporate regional and local plans and programs for water use and
58 management and plans for water and sewerage facilities in the state
59 water plan; (15) promote intraregional solutions and sharing of water
60 resources; (16) develop and recommend strategies to address climate
61 resiliency including the impact of extreme weather events; and (17)
62 identify modifications to laws and regulations that are necessary in
63 order to implement the recommendations of the state water plan.

64 (c) The Water Planning Council shall provide a time period of not
65 less than one hundred twenty days for public review and comment
66 prior to finalizing such plan. The Commissioners of Public Health and
67 Energy and Environmental Protection, the chairperson of the Public
68 Utilities Regulatory Authority and the Secretary of the Office of Policy
69 and Management shall post such draft plan and information
70 concerning such comment period in a conspicuous location on their
71 respective web sites. The Council on Environmental Quality shall post
72 such draft plan and information concerning such comment period in
73 the Environmental Monitor. The Water Planning Council shall
74 advertise and hold not less than one public hearing during such public
75 review and comment period. After such public comment period, the
76 council shall fully consider all written and oral comments concerning
77 the proposed state water plan. The council shall make available the
78 electronic text of the finalized state water plan on an Internet web site

79 where the finalized state water plan shall be posted and a report
80 summarizing: (1) All public comments received pursuant to this
81 subsection, and (2) the changes made to the finalized state water plan
82 in response to such comments and the reasons for such changes.

83 (d) Not later than January 1, 2018, the Water Planning Council, in
84 accordance with section 11-4a, shall submit the state water plan to the
85 joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance
86 of matters relating to the environment, public health, planning and
87 development and energy and technology for said committees'
88 approval or disapproval and any recommendations for revisions to the
89 plan. The council shall submit such report to the Governor
90 electronically.

91 (e) Said joint standing committees shall conduct a joint public
92 hearing on the state water plan not later than forty-five days after
93 receiving the plan pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, provided
94 the Water Planning Council submits the plan at least sixty days prior
95 to the end of the 2018 regular session of the General Assembly. If the
96 Water Planning Council does not submit the plan at least sixty days
97 prior to the end of the 2018 regular session, said joint standing
98 committees shall conduct a joint public hearing on the plan not later
99 than forty-five days after the convening of the 2019 regular session of
100 the General Assembly. Not later than forty-five days after the joint
101 public hearing, said joint standing committees shall either submit the
102 plan with said joint standing committees' joint recommendations for
103 approval to the General Assembly or return the plan to the Water
104 Planning Council indicating their disapproval and any
105 recommendations for revisions to the plan.

106 (f) In the event that the General Assembly disapproves or fails to act
107 on the state water plan, in whole or in part, the state water plan shall

108 be deemed to be rejected and shall be returned to the Water Planning
109 Council for revisions and resubmittal to the General Assembly in
110 accordance with the provisions of subsection (f) of this section.

111 (g) The Water Planning Council shall oversee the implementation
112 and periodic updates of the state water plan. On or before January 1,
113 2016, and annually thereafter, the Water Planning Council shall submit
114 a report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint standing
115 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
116 relating to the environment, public health, planning and development
117 and energy and technology on the status of the development and
118 implementation of the state water plan and any updates to such plan.
119 On and after January 1, 2016, the report required by this subsection
120 shall supplant the requirement for an annual report as required
121 pursuant to section 25-33o."