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HOUSE FLOOR AMENDMENTS

2017 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by Representative Hunter to Engrossed House Bill No. 533 by Representative Hunter

1 AMENDMENT NO. 1

2 On page 1, line 2, delete "R.S. 40:5.6.1," and insert in lieu thereof the following:

3 "Part V of Subchapter B of Chapter 5-F of Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of
4 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 40:1290.1 through 1290.4,"

5 AMENDMENT NO. 2

6 On page 1, delete lines 3 through 7 in their entirety and insert in lieu thereof the following:

7 "require a collaborative effort to improve public drinking water quality; to require reporting;
8 to provide for a termination date; and to"

9 AMENDMENT NO. 3

10 On page 1, after line 9, delete the remainder of the page and delete pages 2 through 6 in their
11 entirety and insert in lieu thereof the following:

12 "Section 1. Part V of Subchapter B of Chapter 5-F of Title 40 of the
13 Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 40:1290.1 through
14 1290.4, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

15 PART V. STATE-LEVEL COLLABORATION TO
16 IMPROVE PUBLIC DRINKING WATER QUALITY

17 §1290.1. Legislative findings; purpose

18 A. The Legislature of Louisiana does hereby find and declare the
19 following:

20 (1) The provision of water for public use and consumption not only
21 safe but also acceptable in appearance, taste, and odor is of the highest
22 priority.

23 (2) Water aesthetically unacceptable can undermine the confidence
24 of consumers, will lead to complaints, and could lead to the use of water
25 from sources which are less safe.

26 (3) Generally, consumers have no means of judging the safety of
27 their water themselves, but their attitude towards the water supply and water
28 suppliers is often greatly affected by the aspects of water quality they are
29 able to perceive with their own senses.

30 (4) It is natural for consumers to regard with suspicion water that
31 appears dirty or discolored or that has an unpleasant taste or smell. Even
32 though these characteristics may not in themselves be of direct consequence,
33 they may consequently cause a substantial number of persons to discontinue
34 using a public water system.

35 (5) On July 28, 2010, through Resolution 64/292, the United Nations
36 General Assembly explicitly recognized the right to safe and clean drinking
37 water and sanitation as a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment
38 of life and all human rights.

1 (6) In November 2002, the United Nations Committee on Economic,
 2 Social, and Cultural Rights adopted General Comment No. 15, The Right to
 3 Water, which states the human right to water is indispensable for leading a
 4 life in human dignity and is a prerequisite for the realization of other human
 5 rights.

6 B. The purpose of this Part is to request the Louisiana Department
 7 of Health to lead a collaborative effort to improve public drinking water
 8 quality in this state, and to develop recommendations to the legislature
 9 concerning effective and responsible practices to improve and maintain the
 10 quality of drinking water provided by water utility systems.

11 §1290.2. State-level collaboration to improve public drinking water quality

12 A. The Louisiana Department of Health shall lead a collaborative
 13 effort to evaluate the issues and conditions of drinking water treatment and
 14 distribution in communities throughout Louisiana by performing a thorough
 15 evaluation of all of the following:

16 (1) The sanitary survey results for each water utility system across
 17 Louisiana.

18 (2) The effects deteriorating systems have on the safety, health, and
 19 well-being of Louisiana families, communities, and businesses.

20 B. The Louisiana Department of Health shall engage and solicit, as
 21 necessary, input, recommendations, and guidance from interested parties and
 22 stakeholders including but not limited to any of the following:

23 (1) State and local agencies involved in the regulation, treatment, and
 24 distribution of drinking water.

25 (2) Technical experts at the university and consulting levels.

26 (3) Water utility system owners and operators, community members,
 27 and state legislators from areas with known public water quality issues.

28 §1290.3. Reporting

29 A. The Louisiana Department of Health shall develop a report of the
 30 results of the collaborative effort required by this Part, including findings,
 31 recommendations, and proposed legislation, if necessary, and shall submit
 32 the report to the House and Senate committees on health and welfare no later
 33 than thirty days prior to the convening of the 2020 Regular Legislative
 34 Session.

35 B. The Louisiana Department of Health shall submit an interim
 36 progress report no later than thirty days prior to the convening of the regular
 37 legislative session of each year until the final report required by Subsection
 38 A of this Section is submitted.

39 §1290.4. Termination

40 The provisions of this Part shall terminate on December 31, 2020."