

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Committee Bill No. 6224

LCO No. **5386**

Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by: (ENV)

AN ACT CONCERNING WATER SUPPLIES AND THE WATER TREATMENT OPERATOR WORKFORCE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (Effective from passage) The Commissioner of Energy and 2 Environmental Protection shall develop a plan to: (1) Improve the dam 3 permitting process by expanding the activities that may be undertaken 4 pursuant to the three existing general permits; (2) enhance the 5 preapplication and intake process to ensure that all parties have a 6 thorough understanding of the project scope, regulatory requirements 7 and timeline; (3) prioritize permit review based on dam classification 8 and dam function; (4) work with water utilities to address concerns 9 regarding the administration of the state Department of 10 Transportation's encroachment permit process that imposes liability on 11 public water suppliers for work performed by outside contractors 12 within the state's rights-of-way; and (5) provide incentives for attracting 13 and retaining water treatment facility operators. Not later than February 14 1, 2026, the commissioner, in accordance with the provisions of section 15 11-4a of the general statutes, shall submit such plan and any attendant 16 legislative recommendations to the joint standing committee of the 17 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the

18 environment.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
sections:Section 1from passageNew section

Statement of Purpose:

To improve water supplies and add qualified and certified water treatment operators to address workforce shortages.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. MUSHINSKY, 85th Dist.

<u>H.B. 6224</u>