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## OLR Bill Analysis

### HB 7248 (as amended by House "A")\*

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING WELL WATER QUALITY.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill allows the Department of Public Health (DPH) commissioner to implement policies and procedures needed to administer laws related to cross-connections between water supplies while in the process of adopting them as regulations. In doing so, the commissioner must post on the e-Regulations system (1) the policies and procedures before adopting them and (2) her intention to adopt regulations, no later than 20 days after implementing the policies and procedures, which are valid until final regulations are adopted.

By law, an environmental laboratory that conducts a water quality test on a private or semipublic well must report the results to DPH and the local health authority. With limited exceptions, the test results are confidential, along with information obtained from any related investigation or morbidity or mortality study. The bill adds a new exception, specifying that DPH and the local health authority, with the commissioner's approval, may disclose the test results or investigation information to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. Existing law already allows disclosure to the following:

1. the property owner,
2. a prospective buyer who has signed a purchase contract,
3. a state agency's agent, or
4. other people or entities when disclosure is needed for DPH or the local health authority to carry out their duties under law or regulation.

\*House Amendment "A" requires the DPH commissioner to post her

intention to adopt regulations on the e-Regulations system within 20 days after implementing policies and procedures.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 22 Nay 10 (03/28/2025)