



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 24

February Session, 2026

House Bill No. 5167

House of Representatives, March 16, 2026

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. MCCARTHY VAHEY of the 133rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISCLOSURE OF WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS FOR CERTAIN PRIVATE AND SEMIPUBLIC WELLS.

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 19a-37 of the
2 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
3 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4 (c) (1) Any laboratory or firm which conducts a water quality test on
5 a private well serving a residential property or semipublic well in the
6 state shall, not later than thirty days after the completion of such test,
7 report the results of such test to the local health authority of the
8 municipality where the property is located and the Department of
9 Public Health in a format specified by the department. Results
10 submitted to the Department of Public Health or the local health
11 authority pursuant to this subsection, information obtained from any
12 Department of Public Health or local health authority investigation
13 regarding those results and any Department of Public Health or local
14 health authority study of morbidity and mortality regarding the results

15 shall be confidential pursuant to section 19a-25, except the local health
 16 authority and the department may [if approved by the commissioner,]
 17 disclose the results or information obtained from an investigation of the
 18 results to (A) the owner of the property on which the well is located, the
 19 owner of any other property that obtains water from the well, and the
 20 owner of each property that is adjacent to the property on which the
 21 well is located or to any other property that obtains water from the well,
 22 (B) a prospective buyer of such property who has signed a contract to
 23 purchase such property, (C) other persons or entities, when such
 24 disclosure is necessary to carry out a statutory or regulatory
 25 responsibility of the local health authority or department, [or] and (D)
 26 an agent of a state agency.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2026	19a-37(c)(1)

PH *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill makes procedural changes regarding the disclosure of certain water quality test results, resulting in no fiscal impact to the state or municipalities.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5167*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISCLOSURE OF WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS FOR CERTAIN PRIVATE AND SEMIPUBLIC WELLS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill removes the requirement for the Department of Public Health (DPH) commissioner's approval before health authorities can disclose private residential or semipublic well testing results to certain parties, and expands the allowable recipients of the test results.

More specifically, the law requires an environmental laboratory that conducts water quality testing for these wells to report the results to DPH and the local health authority. Current law allows DPH and the local health authority, with the DPH commissioner's approval, to disclose the test results or related investigation information to certain parties. The bill eliminates the requirement for the commissioner's approval, and expands the allowable parties to include the owner of (1) any other property that obtains water from the well or (2) any property next to the property (a) where the well is located or (b) that obtains water from the well.

Under existing law, DPH and the local health authority (currently, only with the commissioner's approval) may also disclose the test results or investigation information 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.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 31 Nay 0 (03/02/2026)