



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

Raised Bill No. 5518

LCO No. 2778



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S
RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND DRINKING WATER STATUTES.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 21a-150 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3 For the purposes of this section and sections 21a-150a to 21a-150j,
4 inclusive, as amended by this act:

5 (1) "Approved laboratory" means a laboratory [registered] certified
6 by the Department of Public Health pursuant to section 19a-29a, as
7 amended by this act, or certified by the United States Environmental
8 Protection Agency to analyze drinking water;

9 (2) "Approved source" means the source of any bottled water,
10 including, but not limited to, a spring, artesian well, drilled well or
11 public water supply, that, for a source located in the state, has been
12 inspected and approved by the Department of Public Health, or for a
13 source located out of state, has been inspected and approved by the

14 government entities having jurisdiction to regulate the use of such out-
15 of-state source;

16 (3) "Artesian well water" means bottled natural water obtained from
17 a well tapping an aquifer in which the level of the water is above the
18 bottom of the confining bed of the aquifer and in which the hydraulic
19 pressure of the water in the aquifer is greater than the atmospheric
20 pressure;

21 (4) "Bottled water", or any term of similar import, means water
22 obtained from an approved source that is packaged for sale or
23 distribution. "Bottled water" shall not include any soda or seltzer that is
24 packaged for sale or distribution;

25 (5) "Bottler" means any person, firm or corporation engaging in the
26 business of bottling or distributing water for sale or distribution;

27 (6) "Distilled water" means purified water that has been produced by
28 a process of distillation;

29 (7) "Drinking water" means bottled water that has been distilled,
30 fluoridated or purified or that has been disinfected by a process of
31 ozonation and filtration or any substantially similar disinfection
32 process;

33 (8) "Fluoridated water" means bottled water that contains fluoride
34 ions in an amount not less than eight-tenths of one milligram per liter
35 and not more than one and two-tenths milligrams per liter or such
36 alternative concentration limit as the Commissioner of Consumer
37 Protection, with the advice and assistance of the Commissioner of Public
38 Health, may determine by regulations adopted in accordance with the
39 provisions of chapter 54 and that otherwise complies with the
40 provisions of Subsections (b), (c) and (d) of 21 CFR 165.110;

41 (9) "Mineral water" means natural water that contains not less than
42 five hundred parts per million total dissolved solids;

43 (10) "Natural water" means bottled spring water, artesian well water
44 or well water, that has been obtained from any approved source other
45 than a public water supply and that has not been modified by blending
46 with water from any other source or by the addition or deletion of any
47 mineral other than any addition or deletion that may occur as a result of
48 ozonation, filtration or any other substantially similar disinfection
49 process;

50 (11) "Perfluoroalkyl substance" means perfluorooctanoic acid,
51 perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, perfluorononoic acid, perfluorohexane
52 sulfonic acid, hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid or any other
53 perfluoroalkyl substance the commissioner determines requires an
54 action level for the protection of public health, safety or welfare;

55 [(11)] (12) "Principal display panel" means the portion of a label on
56 any container or package that is most likely to be displayed, presented
57 or examined under normal and customary conditions of display and
58 purchase of bottled water;

59 [(12)] (13) "Public water supply" means any individual, partnership,
60 association, corporation, municipality or other entity, or the lessee
61 thereof, that owns, maintains, operates, manages, controls or employs
62 any pond, lake, reservoir, well, stream or distributing plant or system
63 for the purpose of supplying water by service connections or pipe
64 distribution systems to two or more hotels, motels, boardinghouses,
65 apartments, stores, office buildings, institutions, mechanical or
66 manufacturing establishments or other places of business or industry to
67 which water is supplied by a water company or to twenty-five or more
68 persons on a regular basis;

69 [(13)] (14) "Purified water" means bottled water that is produced by
70 distillation, deionization, reverse osmosis or any other suitable process
71 and that meets standards established for purified water in the twentieth
72 edition of the United States Pharmacopoeia;

73 [(14)] (15) "Spring water" means natural water obtained from an

74 underground formation from which water flows naturally to the surface
75 of the earth; [and]

76 (16) "Unregulated contaminant" means any chemical, physical,
77 biological or radiological substance in a bottled water source, except a
78 perfluoroalkyl substance, for which there is no state or federal statutory
79 or regulatory drinking water health standard; and

80 [(15)] (17) "Well water" means natural water obtained from a hole
81 bored, drilled or otherwise constructed in the ground, that taps the
82 water of an aquifer.

83 Sec. 2. Subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 21a-150a of the
84 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
85 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

86 (2) A bottler selling or distributing bottled water obtained from a
87 source located in the state shall obtain approval for the use of such
88 source from the Department of Public Health. The Department of Public
89 Health shall inspect each bottled water source located in the state and,
90 if such source meets quality and safety requirements, issue an approval
91 for such source. An approval issued by the Department of Public Health
92 pursuant to this subsection shall contain any terms or conditions
93 deemed necessary by the Commissioner of Public Health to address the
94 quality and safety of the source and shall expire three years from the
95 date of issue.

96 Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 21a-150b of the general statutes is
97 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
98 *1, 2026*):

99 (c) (1) The Commissioner of Public Health shall, not less than
100 annually, issue a schedule containing (A) a list of perfluoroalkyl
101 substances and unregulated contaminants, and (B) the acceptable levels
102 of or standards governing such perfluoroalkyl substances and
103 unregulated contaminants in drinking water. The commissioner shall

104 update the schedule, as deemed necessary by the commissioner.

105 [(c)] (2) On or before January 1, [2022] 2027, and annually thereafter,
106 qualified employees of a bottler shall [(1)] (A) collect samples of water
107 from each approved source that is located in the state, that has been
108 inspected and approved by the Department of Public Health pursuant
109 to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 21a-150a, as amended by
110 this act, and is used by such bottler, prior to any treatment, to test for
111 compliance with the (i) levels or standards governing perfluoroalkyl
112 substances and [other] unregulated contaminants established in the
113 most recent schedule issued pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
114 subsection, and (ii) physical, chemical, radiological and microbiological
115 standards established in regulations adopted pursuant to section 25-32,
116 and [(2)] (B) have such samples analyzed by an environmental
117 laboratory [registered] certified by the Department of Public Health
118 pursuant to section 19a-29a, as amended by this act, that has the
119 Environmental Protection Agency approved certification to conduct
120 such analysis. [As used in this subsection, "unregulated contaminant"
121 means a contaminant for which the Commissioner of Public Health,
122 pursuant to section 22a-471, has set a level at which such contaminant
123 creates or can reasonably be expected to create an unacceptable risk of
124 injury to the health or safety of persons drinking such source of water.]

125 Sec. 4. Subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 21a-150c of the
126 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
127 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

128 (2) Collect, not less than once annually, a representative sample from
129 a batch or segment of a continuous production of each type of bottled
130 water sold by such bottler in this state, and have such sample analyzed
131 by an approved laboratory to determine whether such sample complies
132 with the chemical, inorganic, organic, physical and radiological
133 standards set forth in regulations adopted by the Department of Public
134 Health pursuant to section [19a-36] 25-32 concerning public drinking
135 water. Each bottler that uses water obtained from an out-of-state source

136 may meet the requirements of this subdivision by demonstrating
137 compliance with substantially similar standards established by the
138 government entity having jurisdiction to regulate the use of such source.

139 Sec. 5. Subsection (d) of section 21a-150d of the general statutes is
140 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
141 *1, 2026*):

142 (d) A bottler shall report, in a form and manner prescribed by the
143 Commissioner of Public Health, the results of the analysis conducted
144 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 21a-150b, as amended by this act,
145 to the Department of Public Health and the Department of Consumer
146 Protection not later than nine calendar days after receipt of the results
147 from the environmental laboratory. If such results [exceed the level set
148 by the Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to section 22a-471 for
149 such perfluoroalkyl substances and other unregulated contaminants] do
150 not meet the requirements for (1) levels or standards governing
151 perfluoroalkyl substances and unregulated contaminants established
152 pursuant to the provisions of section 21a-150b, as amended by this act,
153 or (2) physical, chemical, radiological and microbiological standards
154 established in regulations adopted pursuant to section 25-32, the
155 Department of Public Health may require such bottler to discontinue
156 use of its approved source until such source [no longer creates an
157 unacceptable risk of injury to the health or safety of persons drinking
158 the bottled water that comes from such source] meet the requirements
159 for such levels or standards. The Department of Public Health shall
160 notify the Department of Consumer Protection of any source for which
161 the Department of Public Health has discontinued use until such source
162 no longer creates an unacceptable risk of injury to the health or safety of
163 the persons drinking the bottled water that comes from such source. [As
164 used in this subsection, "unregulated contaminant" means a
165 contaminant for which the Commissioner of Public Health, pursuant to
166 section 22a-471, has set a level at which such contaminant creates or can
167 reasonably be expected to create an unacceptable risk of injury to the
168 health or safety of the persons drinking such source of water.]

169 Sec. 6. Section 19a-37k of the general statutes is repealed and the
170 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

171 The owner of any residential or commercial property shall notify each
172 tenant of any leased or rented unit located on such property and the
173 lessee of such property whenever any testing of the water supply for
174 such property indicates that the water exceeds [a] any maximum
175 contaminant level [applicable to] for water supply systems [for any
176 contaminant listed] set forth in the regulations of Connecticut state
177 agencies [or for any contaminant listed on the state drinking water
178 action level list established pursuant to section 22a-471] or for
179 perfluoroalkyl substances and unregulated contaminants established
180 pursuant to the provisions of section 21a-150b, as amended by this act.
181 As soon as practicable, but not later than forty-eight hours after
182 receiving notification of the results of such testing, the owner shall
183 forward a copy of such notification to each such tenant and lessee. The
184 local director of health shall take all reasonable steps to verify that such
185 owner forwarded the notice required pursuant to this section.

186 Sec. 7. Section 19a-29a of the general statutes is repealed and the
187 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

188 (a) As used in this section:

189 (1) "Environmental laboratory" means any facility or other area,
190 including, but not limited to, an outdoor area where testing occurs, used
191 for microbiological, chemical, radiological or other analyte testing of
192 drinking waters, ground waters, sea waters, rivers, streams and surface
193 waters, recreational waters, fresh water sources, wastewaters,
194 swimming pools, construction, renovation and demolition building
195 materials, soil, solid waste, animal and plant tissues, sewage, sewage
196 effluent, sewage sludge or any other matrix for the purpose of providing
197 information on the sanitary quality or the amount of pollution or any
198 substance prejudicial to health or the environment. "Environmental
199 laboratory" does not include a publicly-owned treatment works, as

200 defined in section 22a-521, that performs only physical, residue,
201 microbiological and biological oxygen demand tests for its own facility
202 for which results are required by or submitted to the Department of
203 Energy and Environmental Protection to comply with permits or
204 authorizations issued pursuant to section 22a-6k, 22a-430 or 22a-430b,
205 or a pollution abatement facility, as defined in either section 22a-423 or
206 22a-475, that tests for pH, turbidity, conductivity, salinity and oxidation-
207 reduction potential, and tests for residual chlorine for its own facility for
208 which results are required by or submitted to the Department of Energy
209 and Environmental Protection to comply with permits or authorizations
210 issued pursuant to section 22a-6k, 22a-430 or 22a-430b;

211 (2) "Analyte" means a microbiological, chemical, radiological or other
212 component of a matrix being measured by an analytical test; [and]

213 (3) "Certification" means an approval issued by the Department of
214 Public Health to an environmental laboratory to operate and that sets
215 forth the specific analyte that may be tested and specific testing method
216 that may be utilized by the environmental laboratory;

217 ~~[(3)]~~ (4) "Matrix" means the substance or medium in which an analyte
218 [is] ~~may be~~ contained [,] that may include drinking water or wastewater;

219 (5) "Out-of-state environmental laboratory" means an environmental
220 laboratory that is located and physically operates in another state where
221 the results of any testing conducted are used to demonstrate compliance
222 with any statutory or regulatory requirements of this state; and

223 (6) "Service center" means a collection site located in the state
224 operated solely for the purpose of collecting samples to be tested at a
225 certified environmental laboratory or an out-of-state environmental
226 laboratory.

227 (b) The Department of Public Health shall ~~[(1)]~~ adopt regulations, in
228 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to establish [reasonable]
229 standards governing environmental laboratory operations and facilities,

230 including, but not limited to (1) service centers, (2) personnel
231 qualifications, (3) certification, [for] (4) testing [,] for analytes, (5) levels
232 of acceptable proficiency in testing programs approved by the
233 department, (6) the collection, acceptance and suitability of samples for
234 analysis, and (7) such other pertinent laboratory functions, including the
235 establishment of advisory committees, as may be necessary to ensure
236 environmental quality, public health and safety. [, and (2) establish one
237 or more schedules of the amounts of civil penalties that may be imposed
238 under this section. Each registered environmental laboratory shall
239 comply with all standards for environmental laboratories established by
240 the department and shall be subject to inspection by said department,
241 including inspection of all records necessary to carry out the purposes
242 of this section. The Commissioner of Public Health may revoke or
243 otherwise limit the license of any environmental laboratory that fails to
244 comply with the provisions of this section or regulations adopted under
245 this section.] The Commissioner of Public Health may implement
246 policies and procedures necessary to implement the provisions of this
247 section while in the process of adopting such policies and procedures as
248 regulations, provided the department posts such policies and
249 procedures on the eRegulations System not later than twenty days after
250 the date of implementation of such policies and procedures. Policies and
251 procedures implemented pursuant to this section shall be valid until
252 final regulations are adopted in accordance with the provisions of
253 chapter 54.

254 (c) [The Commissioner of Public Health shall determine whether it is
255 necessary for the protection of the public health or the environment for
256 an environmental laboratory to be registered and to have certification to
257 conduct a test for an analyte in a matrix. If the commissioner determines
258 that it is necessary for the environmental laboratory to be registered,
259 such environmental laboratory shall obtain from the commissioner a
260 certification to conduct such tests for analytes.] No person shall operate,
261 manage, own or control an environmental laboratory that tests for
262 analytes identified on the list published by the commissioner pursuant

263 to subsection (d) of this section for the purpose of providing information
264 on the sanitary quality or the amount of pollution of any substance
265 prejudicial to health or the environment [for which the commissioner
266 has determined registration and certification is required without having
267 first registered and obtained such certification] without a certification.
268 The commissioner shall not issue a certification to an environmental
269 laboratory until such environmental laboratory demonstrates
270 compliance with applicable statutory and regulatory requirements.

271 (d) The commissioner shall, annually, publish a list setting forth all
272 analytes and matrices for which a certification for testing is required.
273 Such list shall include the specific methods acceptable for all testing of
274 analytes and matrices.

275 (e) Each application for [registration of an environmental laboratory
276 and for certification for testing any analyte] certification shall be (1)
277 made on forms provided by said department, [shall be] (2) except for an
278 environmental lab owned or operated by the state, accompanied by a
279 fee of one thousand two hundred fifty dollars, and [shall be] (3) executed
280 by the owner or owners or by a responsible officer authorized to do so
281 by the agency, [firm or corporation] person or entity owning the
282 environmental laboratory. Upon receipt of any such application, the
283 department shall make such inspections and investigations as are
284 necessary and shall deny [registration] certification when operation of
285 the environmental laboratory would be in violation of applicable
286 statutes or regulations or prejudicial to the health of the public.
287 [Registration] Certification shall not be in force until notice of its
288 effective date and term has been sent to the applicant.

289 (f) Each [registration or] certification shall be issued for a period of
290 not less than twenty-four or more than twenty-seven months. [from any
291 deadline for applications established by the commissioner.] Renewal
292 applications shall be made (1) biennially within the twenty-fourth
293 month of the current registration; (2) before any change in ownership is
294 made; and (3) prior to any major expansion or alteration in, or changing

295 of, quarters.

296 (g) This section shall not apply to any environmental laboratory that
297 only provides laboratory services or information for the agency, person
298 [firm or corporation] or entity which owns or operates such laboratory
299 and uses laboratory results solely for such agency, person or entity's
300 own information. No agency, person or entity shall use such results to
301 demonstrate compliance with any statutory or regulatory requirement.

302 (h) If, upon review, investigation or inspection, the [Commissioner of
303 Public Health determines an] commissioner determines a certified
304 environmental laboratory has violated any provision of this section or
305 regulations adopted under this section, the commissioner may impose
306 a civil penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars per violation per day
307 and issue such other orders as the commissioner determines necessary
308 to protect the public health. Upon notice of the issuance of an order or
309 imposition of the civil penalty, the commissioner shall provide the
310 environmental laboratory with an opportunity for a hearing. The
311 commissioner (1) may take any of the actions authorized under section
312 19a-494 against an environmental laboratory that fails to comply with
313 the provisions of this section or regulations adopted thereunder, and (2)
314 shall summarily suspend the certification of an environmental
315 laboratory in advance of a final adjudication or during the appeals
316 process if the commissioner finds that the environmental laboratory
317 presents a clear and present danger to the public health and safety if
318 allowed to continue operating. Governmental immunity shall not be a
319 defense against the imposition of any civil penalty imposed pursuant to
320 this section. In determining the amount of the civil penalty to be
321 imposed on an environmental laboratory, the commissioner shall
322 consider the degree of the threat to public health or the environment,
323 the amount necessary to achieve compliance, and the history of
324 compliance [of] by the environmental laboratory. Any order or civil
325 penalty issued under this provision may be appealed in accordance with
326 the provisions of section 4-183.

327 (i) The failure of an environmental laboratory to pay a civil penalty
328 imposed by the commissioner shall be grounds for revocation of the
329 environmental laboratory's [registration and certification for testing]
330 certification.

331 (j) The commissioner may order an [unregistered] environmental
332 laboratory that is not certified to test an analyte to cease operations. The
333 commissioner may impose a civil fine to not exceed five thousand
334 dollars per violation per day to an environmental laboratory for
335 operating without a certification.

336 (k) The commissioner may request the Attorney General to petition
337 the Superior Court for an order to aid in enforcement of any provision
338 of this section.

339 (l) An out-of-state environmental laboratory that has not been issued
340 a certification by the commissioner shall not operate a service center
341 without obtaining approval from the commissioner. An out-of-state
342 environmental laboratory seeking to operate a service center shall apply
343 for such approval in a form and manner prescribed by the
344 commissioner. The commissioner may approve a service center
345 operated by an out-of-state environmental laboratory if such
346 environmental laboratory demonstrates that (1) it maintains an active
347 certification from the state in which the environmental laboratory is
348 located to test for an analyte using a specific method on the list
349 published pursuant to subsection (d) of this section; and (2) the policies
350 and procedures governing the service center are sufficient to protect the
351 integrity of the samples to be tested. Such approval shall expire not later
352 than two years after the date on which the commissioner issues an initial
353 approval and may be renewed for a period of two years in a form and
354 manner prescribed by the commissioner. The commissioner may inspect
355 a service center operated by an out-of-state environmental laboratory at
356 any time. The commissioner may revoke an approval obtained pursuant
357 to the provisions of this subsection if the commissioner determines that
358 revocation is necessary to protect the public health. The commissioner

359 may issue a civil fine up to five thousand dollars if the commissioner
360 determines that the out-of-state environmental laboratory violated any
361 provision of this section or regulations adopted thereunder per violation
362 per day. In assessing the amount of such civil penalty, the commissioner
363 shall consider the factors described in subsection (h) of this section.
364 Upon notice of the imposition of the civil penalty, the commissioner
365 shall provide the out-of-state environmental laboratory with an
366 opportunity for a hearing. Any revocation or civil penalty issued under
367 this subsection may be appealed in accordance with the provisions of
368 section 4-183.

369 Sec. 8. Subsection (a) of section 19a-14d of the general statutes is
370 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
371 *1, 2026*):

372 (a) An occupational or professional license, permit, certification or
373 registration issued by the Department of Public Health pursuant to
374 chapter 368v, 370, 372, 373, 375, 375a, 376, 376a, 376b, 376c, 377, 378,
375 378a, 379, 379a, 380, 381, 381a, 381b, 382a, 382b, 382c, 383, 383a, 383b,
376 383c, 383d, 383e, 383f, 383g, 383h, 384, 384a, 384b, 384c, 384d, 385, 386,
377 387, 387a, 388, 388a, 393a, 395, 397a, 398, 399, [400a,] 400c or 474 shall be
378 issued, in the occupation or profession applied for and at a practice level
379 determined by the department, to a person, including, but not limited
380 to, an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States or
381 such person's spouse, if:

382 (1) The person holds a valid license, permit, certification or
383 registration in at least one other jurisdiction in the United States in the
384 occupation or profession applied for;

385 (2) The person has practiced under such license, permit, certification
386 or registration for not less than four years;

387 (3) The person is in good standing in all jurisdictions in the United
388 States in which he or she holds a license, permit, certification or
389 registration and has not had a license, permit, certification or

390 registration revoked or discipline imposed by any jurisdiction in the
391 United States, does not have a complaint, allegation or investigation
392 related to unprofessional conduct pending in any jurisdiction, and has
393 not voluntarily surrendered a license, permit, certification or
394 registration while under investigation for unprofessional conduct in any
395 jurisdiction;

396 (4) The person satisfies any background check or character and fitness
397 check required of other applicants for the license, permit, certification or
398 registration; and

399 (5) The person pays all fees required of other applicants for the
400 license, permit, certification or registration.

401 Sec. 9. Section 19a-332 of the general statutes is repealed and the
402 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

403 As used in subsection (c) of section 19a-14 and sections 19a-332 to
404 19a-332e, inclusive, as amended by this act, 20-435 to 20-442, inclusive,
405 as amended by this act, and 52-577a:

406 (1) "Asbestos" means the asbestiform varieties of actinolite, amosite,
407 anthophyllite, chrysotile, crocidolite and tremolite;

408 (2) "Asbestos abatement" means the removal, encapsulation,
409 enclosure, renovation, repair, demolition or other disturbance of
410 asbestos-containing materials or suspect asbestos-containing materials,
411 but does not include activities which are related to (A) the removal or
412 repair of asbestos cement pipe and are performed by employees of a
413 water company as defined in section 25-32a, or (B) the removal of
414 nonfriable asbestos-containing material found exterior to a building or
415 structure other than material defined as regulated asbestos-containing
416 material in 40 CFR 61, the National Emission Standards for Hazardous
417 Air Pollutants, as amended from time to time;

418 (3) "Asbestos abatement worker" means any employee of a licensed

419 asbestos contractor who engages in asbestos abatement, has completed
420 a training program approved by the department and has been issued a
421 certificate by the [department] commissioner;

422 (4) "Asbestos abatement site supervisor" means any asbestos
423 abatement worker employed by a licensed asbestos contractor who has
424 been specifically trained as a supervisor in a training program approved
425 by the [department] commissioner and who has been issued a certificate
426 by the [department] commissioner;

427 (5) "Asbestos-containing material" means material composed of
428 asbestos of any type and in an amount equal to or greater than one per
429 cent by weight, either alone or mixed with other fibrous or nonfibrous
430 material;

431 (6) "Asbestos contractor" means any person or entity engaged in
432 asbestos abatement [whose employees] actually [perform] performs the
433 asbestos abatement work and who has been issued a license by the
434 commissioner;

435 (7) "Asbestos consultant" means any person who engages in any
436 activity directly involved with asbestos consultation services and who
437 has been issued a [certificate] license by the commissioner; [and a license
438 by the department;]

439 (8) "Asbestos consultation services" means the inspection or
440 evaluation of a building for asbestos hazards, including, but not limited
441 to, the development of asbestos abatement plans, site inspections, air
442 monitoring and provisions of industrial hygiene services related to
443 asbestos abatement;

444 (9) "Authorized agent" means an officer or employee duly designated
445 by the commissioner;

446 (10) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health;

447 (11) "Department" means the Department of Public Health; and

448 (12) "Suspect asbestos-containing materials" means interior and
449 exterior materials that have a reasonable likelihood of containing
450 asbestos based on their appearance, composition and use.

451 Sec. 10. Section 20-435 of the general statutes is repealed and the
452 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

453 [On and after one year following the effective date of regulations
454 adopted pursuant to section 20-440, no] No person or entity shall
455 provide services as an asbestos contractor in this state without a license
456 issued by the Commissioner of Public Health. A person who provides
457 services as an asbestos contractor shall not perform any duties
458 associated with those of an asbestos abatement site supervisor unless
459 such person is certified pursuant to the provisions of section 20-438, as
460 amended by this act. Applications for such license shall be made to the
461 Department of Public Health on forms provided by it, shall be
462 accompanied by a fee of six hundred twenty-five dollars and shall
463 contain such information regarding the applicant's qualifications as the
464 [department] commissioner may require in regulations adopted
465 pursuant to section 20-440, as amended by this act, including, but not
466 limited to, proof of a valid certification as an asbestos abatement site
467 supervisor if the applicant is an individual, and documentation
468 demonstrating that all employees have passed a training course, as
469 defined in section 20-439, as amended by this act, approved by the
470 [department and have been issued a certificate by the department]
471 commissioner. The department shall approve the technical, equipment
472 and personnel resources of each applicant. No person or entity shall be
473 issued a license to act as an asbestos contractor unless [he] such person
474 or entity obtains such approval. The commissioner may issue a license
475 under this section to any person or entity who is licensed in another state
476 under a law [which] that provides standards which are equal to or
477 higher than those of Connecticut and is not subject to any unresolved
478 complaints or pending disciplinary actions. Licenses issued pursuant to
479 this section shall be renewed annually in accordance with the provisions
480 of section 19a-88 upon payment of a fee of six hundred twenty-five

481 dollars.

482 Sec. 11. Section 20-436 of the general statutes is repealed and the
483 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

484 (a) [On and after one year following the effective date of regulations
485 adopted pursuant to section 20-440, no] No person shall [act as an]
486 provide asbestos consultant services in this state without a license
487 issued by the commissioner. Applications for such license shall be made
488 to the department on forms provided by it, and shall be accompanied
489 by a fee of two hundred fifty dollars, and shall contain such information
490 regarding the applicant's qualifications and experience [in asbestos-
491 related consultations as the department] related to asbestos consultation
492 services, including supervised field experience related to asbestos
493 consultation services, as the commissioner may require in regulations
494 adopted pursuant to section 20-440, as amended by this act. [Except as
495 provided in this section, no person shall be licensed as an asbestos
496 consultant unless he completes a training course approved by the
497 department, passes an examination prescribed by the department,
498 receives a certificate issued by the department and satisfies employment
499 experience and educational requirements established by the
500 commissioner pursuant to section 20-441.] An applicant may apply for
501 licensure as an asbestos consultant in one or more of the asbestos
502 consultant services disciplines of inspector, management planner,
503 project designer or project monitor. The commissioner shall not issue a
504 license pursuant to the provisions of this section unless an applicant (1)
505 has successfully completed a training program approved by the
506 commissioner pursuant to the provisions of section 20-439, as amended
507 by this act, in the applicant's chosen asbestos consultant services
508 discipline, and (2) satisfies the experience and educational requirements
509 established in regulations by the commissioner pursuant to section 20-
510 440, as amended by this act. Notwithstanding the provisions of this
511 subsection, an applicant need not be licensed while in the process of
512 completing any supervised field experience requirements required by
513 regulations adopted pursuant to section 20-440, as amended by this act.

514 (b) The commissioner may issue a license under this section without
515 examination to any person who is licensed in another state under a law
516 [which] that provides standards equal to or higher than those of
517 Connecticut and is not subject to any unresolved complaints or pending
518 disciplinary actions. Licenses issued pursuant to this section shall be
519 renewed annually in accordance with the provisions of section 19a-88
520 upon payment of a fee of two hundred fifty dollars.

521 [(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
522 a person who between July 1, 1985, and November 1, 1994, has been
523 employed for a minimum of two years as an asbestos consultant may be
524 licensed as an asbestos consultant without the educational requirements
525 established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.]

526 Sec. 12. Section 20-437 of the general statutes is repealed and the
527 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

528 [On and after one year following the effective date of regulations
529 adopted pursuant to section 20-440, no] No person shall be employed as
530 an asbestos abatement worker unless such [worker] person has
531 completed a training program on asbestos hazards and abatement
532 procedures approved by the [department] commissioner pursuant to
533 section 20-439, as amended by this act, and has been issued a certificate
534 by the [department] commissioner. Applications for such certificate
535 shall be made to the department on forms provided by the department
536 and shall contain such information regarding the applicant's
537 qualifications as may be required in regulations adopted pursuant to
538 section 20-440, as amended by this act, and shall be accompanied by a
539 fee of fifty dollars. The [department] commissioner may issue a
540 certificate under this section to any person who is licensed or certified
541 in another state under a law [which] that provides standards which are
542 equal to or higher than those of this state, provided such person is not
543 subject to any unresolved complaints or pending disciplinary actions.
544 Certificates issued pursuant to this section shall be renewed annually in
545 accordance with the provisions of section 19a-88 upon payment of a fee

546 of fifty dollars.

547 Sec. 13. Section 20-438 of the general statutes is repealed and the
548 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

549 [On and after one year following the effective date of regulations
550 adopted pursuant to section 20-440, no] No person shall be employed as
551 an asbestos abatement site supervisor unless such [worker] person has
552 completed a training program on the supervision of asbestos abatement
553 approved by the [department] commissioner pursuant to section 20-439,
554 as amended by this act, and has been issued a certificate by the
555 [department] commissioner. Applications for such certificate shall be
556 made to the department on forms provided by the department and shall
557 contain such information regarding the applicant's qualifications as may
558 be required in regulations adopted pursuant to section 20-440, as
559 amended by this act, and shall be accompanied by a fee of one hundred
560 dollars. The [department] commissioner may issue a certificate under
561 this section to any person who is licensed or certified in another state
562 under a law which provides standards which are equal to or higher than
563 those of the state of Connecticut, provided such person is not subject to
564 any unresolved complaints or pending disciplinary actions. Certificates
565 issued pursuant to this section shall be renewed annually in accordance
566 with the provisions of section 19a-88 upon payment of a fee of one
567 hundred dollars.

568 Sec. 14. Section 20-439 of the general statutes is repealed and the
569 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

570 (a) [For purposes of this section, "asbestos training provider"] As used
571 in this section: (1) "Asbestos training provider" means a person or entity
572 that offers a training program for asbestos abatement or asbestos
573 [consultation] consultant services and [certifies] issues a certificate of
574 completion for asbestos abatement workers, asbestos abatement site
575 supervisors [and] or asbestos consultants [. On and after October 1, 2017,
576 each asbestos training provider shall be certified by the department. The

577 department shall issue an initial certification of a provider upon the
578 provider's completion of an application and payment of a fee of fifty
579 dollars. The certification] in accordance with the requirements of the
580 United States Environmental Protection Agency's model accreditation
581 plan or equivalent training standards recognized by the commissioner;
582 and (2) "training course" means a specific course offered as part of a
583 training program by a certified asbestos training provider for asbestos
584 abatement, asbestos site supervision or asbestos consultant services and
585 approved in accordance with this section.

586 (b) No person or entity shall act as an asbestos training provider
587 without a certificate issued by the commissioner. The commissioner
588 may issue such certificate upon the (1) applicant's submission of a
589 complete application, (2) payment of a fee of fifty dollars, and (3)
590 commissioner's determination that the applicant complies with any
591 requirements established in regulations adopted pursuant to section 20-
592 440, as amended by this act, including, but not limited to, standards for
593 the qualifications of instructors, recordkeeping and documentation
594 requirements for training course completion. Each certificate issued
595 pursuant to this section shall be renewed annually in accordance with
596 the provisions of subsection (e) of section 19a-88 upon payment of a fee
597 of fifty dollars.

598 (c) An asbestos training provider shall submit any training program
599 to the commissioner for approval prior to implementing such training
600 program. The [department] commissioner shall approve a training
601 program for asbestos abatement or asbestos consultant services,
602 including each training course offered as part of such training program,
603 upon determination that such program complies with the requirements
604 of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's model
605 accreditation plan and such requirements as may be established in
606 regulations adopted pursuant to section 20-440, as amended by this act.
607 An asbestos training provider shall submit each training program to the
608 commissioner for reapproval once every three years. Each application
609 or reapplication for approval of a training program shall be

610 accompanied by a fee of five hundred dollars. Each application for
611 approval or reapproval of a refresher training program [as required by
612 section 20-441] shall be accompanied by a fee of two hundred fifty
613 dollars. Each asbestos training provider shall furnish the department
614 with a list of the persons who have successfully completed [the] a
615 training program or training course [within] not later than thirty days
616 [of] after such completion. The [department] commissioner shall
617 conduct periodic reviews of approved training programs and training
618 courses and may revoke approval of a training program or training
619 course at any time [it] the commissioner determines that the training
620 program or training course fails to meet the requirements of this section
621 or established in such regulations.

622 Sec. 15. Section 20-440 of the general statutes is repealed and the
623 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

624 (a) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with the
625 provisions of chapter 54 to administer the provisions of subsection (c) of
626 section 19a-14, and sections [19a-332 and] 20-435 to [20-441] 20-442a,
627 inclusive, as amended by this act. Such regulations shall include, but not
628 be limited to, the following: (1) Passing scores for licensure examination
629 of [asbestos consultants] persons licensed pursuant to this chapter; (2)
630 standards for the licensing of asbestos contractors and asbestos
631 consultants in each of the asbestos consultant disciplines and for the
632 certification of asbestos abatement workers and asbestos abatement site
633 supervisors; (3) standards for approval of asbestos training providers
634 and training programs [of asbestos abatement and asbestos consultation
635 services] under section 20-439, as amended by this act, including
636 standards for successful completion of such programs; (4) standards
637 and procedures for suspension and revocation of [certification]
638 licensure of asbestos consultants, asbestos abatement workers and
639 asbestos abatement supervisors; and (5) standards and procedures for
640 suspension and [withdrawal] revocation of approval of training
641 programs.

642 (b) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the
643 provisions of chapter 54, to provide for the training of asbestos
644 abatement site supervisors, asbestos abatement workers and asbestos
645 consultants, and for the specification of closely related environmental
646 science degrees. Regulations adopted pursuant to this subsection may
647 include retraining requirements for employees of asbestos contractors.
648 The regulations [required] adopted under [subsection (a) of this section]
649 this subsection shall be revised, as necessary, to ensure that such
650 regulations meet or exceed the requirements of the United States
651 Environmental Protection Agency's model accreditation plan in
652 accordance with federal regulations, as [from time to time] amended
653 from time to time. The commissioner may implement policies and
654 procedures necessary to administer the provisions of this section while
655 in the process of adopting such policies and procedures as regulations,
656 provided notice of intent to adopt regulations is published on the
657 eRegulations System not later than twenty days after the date of
658 implementation. Policies and procedures implemented pursuant to this
659 section shall be valid until final regulations are adopted in accordance
660 with the provisions of chapter 54.

661 Sec. 16. Subsection (a) of section 20-442a of the general statutes is
662 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
663 *1, 2026*):

664 (a) The department may deny an application of [an individual] a
665 person or entity or take any action set forth in section 19a-17 and
666 subsection (f) of section 19a-88 against a person or entity licensed, [or]
667 certified or approved pursuant to chapter 400a for [reasons including,
668 but not limited to,] the following reasons: (1) Conviction of a felony,
669 provided any action taken is based upon (A) the nature of the conviction
670 and its relationship to the license or certificate holder's ability to safely
671 or competently perform the work under such license, (B) information
672 pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the license or certificate
673 holder, and (C) the time elapsed since the conviction or release; (2) fraud
674 or deceit in the practice of such person's or entity's profession; (3)

675 negligent, incompetent or wrongful conduct in professional activities;
676 (4) misrepresentation or concealment of a material fact in the obtaining,
677 reinstatement or renewal of a license or certificate; or (5) violation of any
678 provision of chapter 400a, or any regulation adopted thereunder, or
679 chapter 368l. The commissioner may petition the superior court for the
680 judicial district of Hartford to enforce such order or any action taken
681 pursuant to section 19a-17. Notice of any contemplated action under
682 section 19a-17, the cause of action and the date of a hearing on the action
683 shall be given and an opportunity for hearing afforded in accordance
684 with the provisions of chapter 54.

685 Sec. 17. Section 19a-320 of the general statutes is repealed and the
686 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

687 (a) Any resident of this state, or any corporation formed under the
688 law of this state, may erect, maintain and conduct a crematory in this
689 state and provide the necessary appliances and facilities for the disposal
690 by incineration of the bodies of the dead, in accordance with the
691 provisions of this section. The location of such crematory shall be within
692 the confines of an established cemetery containing not less than twenty
693 acres, which cemetery shall have been in existence and operation for at
694 least five years immediately preceding the time of the erection of such
695 crematory, or shall be within the confines of a plot of land approved for
696 the location of a crematory by the selectmen of any town, the mayor and
697 council or board of aldermen of any city and the warden and burgesses
698 of any borough; provided, in any town, city or borough having a zoning
699 commission, such commission shall have the authority to grant such
700 approval. On and after July 1, 2017, no new crematory shall be located
701 within five hundred feet of any residential structure or land for
702 residential purposes not owned by the owner of the crematory. The
703 location requirements in this subsection shall not apply to a crematory
704 performing only alkaline hydrolysis at a funeral home under subsection
705 (d) of this section.

706 (b) Application for such approval shall be made in writing to the local

707 authority specified in subsection (a) of this section and a hearing shall
708 be held within the town, city or borough in which such location is
709 situated within sixty-five days from the date of receipt of such
710 application. Notice of such hearing shall be given to such applicant by
711 mail, postage paid, to the address given on the application, and to the
712 Commissioner of Public Health, and by publication twice in a
713 newspaper having a substantial circulation in the town, city or borough
714 at intervals of not less than two days, the first being not more than fifteen
715 days or less than ten days, and the second being not less than two days
716 before such hearing. The local authority shall approve or deny such
717 application within sixty-five days after such hearing, provided an
718 extension of time not to exceed a further period of sixty-five days may
719 be had with the consent of the applicant. The grounds for its action shall
720 be stated in the records of the authority. Each applicant shall pay a fee
721 of ten dollars, together with the costs of the publication of such notice
722 and the reasonable expense of such hearing, to the treasurer of such
723 town, city or borough.

724 (c) (1) No such crematory shall be erected until the plans therefor
725 have been filed with and approved by the Department of Public Health;
726 and no such crematory shall be used until it has been inspected and
727 received a certificate of inspection by said department and a fee of one
728 thousand two hundred fifty dollars is paid to the Department of Public
729 Health for its inspection and approval.

730 (2) Each holder of an inspection certificate shall, annually, on or
731 before July first, submit in writing to the Department of Public Health
732 an application for renewal of such certificate together with a fee of three
733 hundred fifteen dollars. If the department issues to such applicant such
734 an inspection certificate, the same shall be valid until July first next
735 following, unless revoked or suspended.

736 (3) Upon receipt of an application for a renewal of such certificate, the
737 Department of Public Health shall make an inspection of each
738 crematory.

739 (4) A crematory shall be open at all times for inspection by the
740 Department of Public Health. The department may make inspections
741 whenever it deems advisable.

742 (5) If, upon inspection by the Department of Public Health, it is found
743 that such crematory is in such condition as to be detrimental to public
744 health, the department shall give to the applicant or operator of the
745 crematory notice and opportunity for hearing as provided in regulations
746 adopted by the Commissioner of Public Health, in accordance with the
747 provisions of chapter 54. The commissioner may, after such hearing,
748 revoke, suspend or refuse to issue or renew any such certificate upon
749 cause found at hearing. Any person aggrieved by the finding of or action
750 taken by the Department of Public Health may appeal therefrom in
751 accordance with the provisions of section 4-183.

752 (6) Any of the inspections provided for in this section may be made
753 by a person designated by the Department of Public Health or by a
754 representative of the Commissioner of Public Health.

755 (d) A crematory that performs alkaline hydrolysis shall be located on
756 the grounds of a funeral home licensed under chapter 385.

757 (e) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the
758 provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section,
759 including, but not limited to, establishing technical standards for the use
760 of alkaline hydrolysis and other chemical processes for cremation and
761 the disposal of any products or by-products used in such processes. The
762 commissioner may adopt policies and procedures necessary to
763 implement the provisions of this section while in the process of adopting
764 such policies and procedures as regulations, provided the department
765 posts such policies and procedures on the eRegulations System not later
766 than twenty days after the date of implementation of such policies and
767 procedures. Policies and procedures implemented pursuant to this
768 section shall be valid until final regulations are adopted in accordance
769 with the provisions of chapter 54.

770 Sec. 18. Section 8-2n of the general statutes is repealed and the
771 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

772 The zoning regulations adopted under section 8-2 or any special act
773 shall not authorize the location of a crematory within five hundred feet
774 of any residential structure or land zoned for residential purposes not
775 owned by the owner of the crematory. As used in this section,
776 "crematory" means a building or structure containing one or more
777 cremation chambers or retorts for the cremation of dead human
778 bodies or large animals but does not include a funeral home that
779 performs cremation only by alkaline hydrolysis pursuant to the
780 provisions of subsection (d) of section 19a-320, as amended by this act,
781 and "large animals" means all cattle, horses, sheep, goat, swine or
782 similar species commonly kept as livestock.

783 Sec. 19. Section 20-442 of the general statutes is repealed and the
784 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

785 Employees of the Connecticut Labor Department performing their
786 duties in accordance with chapter 571 and federal employees of the
787 Occupational Safety and Health Administration performing their duties
788 in accordance with the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act are
789 exempt from the requirements of sections 19a-332d, 19a-332e and 20-435
790 to [20-441] 20-440, inclusive, as amended by this act.

791 Sec. 20. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 19a-37 of the 2026
792 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
793 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

794 (1) "Laboratory or firm" means an environmental laboratory
795 [registered] certified by the Department of Public Health pursuant to
796 section 19a-29a, as amended by this act;

797 Sec. 21. Section 20-441 of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*
798 *October 1, 2026*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-150
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-150a(a)(2)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-150b(c)
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-150c(a)(2)
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	21a-150d(d)
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	19a-37k
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	19a-29a
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	19a-14d(a)
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	19a-332
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	20-435
Sec. 11	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	20-436
Sec. 12	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	20-437
Sec. 13	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	20-438
Sec. 14	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	20-439
Sec. 15	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	20-440
Sec. 16	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	20-442a(a)
Sec. 17	<i>from passage</i>	19a-320
Sec. 18	<i>from passage</i>	8-2n
Sec. 19	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	20-442
Sec. 20	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	19a-37(a)(1)
Sec. 21	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	Repealer section

Statement of Purpose:

To implement the Department of Public Health's recommendations regarding various revisions to the environmental health and drinking water statutes, including statutes relating to bottled water, environmental laboratories and asbestos abatement.

[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.]