

SCS#2 HCS HB 1149 -- REGULATION OF WATER

This bill changes the laws regarding the regulation of water. In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) Authorizes the Board of Fund Commissioners, in addition to the amounts authorized prior to August 28, 2007, to issue bonds for grants and loans under Article III of the Missouri Constitution. The additional amounts authorized are \$10 million for water pollution control, improvement of drinking water systems, and storm water control; \$10 million for rural water and sewer; and \$20 million for storm water control in first classification counties and St. Louis City;

(2) Increases the maximum amount of fees that can be charged by the Department of Natural Resources in order to comply with the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. The Safe Drinking Water Commission may charge lower fee amounts at its discretion. The authorization to impose fees is extended until September 1, 2012;

(3) Authorizes public water supply districts, sewer districts, and municipalities to install and maintain sewer and water lines in public highways, roads, and streets subject to the reasonable rules of the jurisdictional governing body. The Highways and Transportation Commission retains ultimate authority to monitor construction in the right-of-way of any state highway;

(4) Authorizes the Clean Water Commission of the State of Missouri to provide listings required by Section 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act to the federal Environmental Protection Agency. Procedures are specified in the bill and include public notice and judicial review requirements;

(5) Allows the department director or the commission to require a bond for the construction of innovative wastewater treatment facilities that have not been approved by any federal agency or another state's environmental regulatory agency;

(6) Extends the authorization for certain permit fees under Sections 644.052 and 644.053, RSMo, until December 31, 2009;

(7) Revises the definition of "point source" in Section 644.016 to exclude agricultural storm water discharges and flows from irrigated agriculture; and

(8) Exempts the new St. Louis baseball stadium from the equal number of men and women's restroom requirement until one year after its completion.