

SB 541-FN-A - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-2151

08/05

SENATE BILL        **541-FN-A**

AN ACT            making an appropriation for regional drinking water infrastructure.

SPONSORS:        Sen. Abbas, Dist 22; Sen. McGough, Dist 11; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Sen. Avar, Dist 12; Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Rep. DeSimone, Rock. 18; Rep. Donnelly, Rock. 25; Rep. Harb, Rock. 20; Rep. Nelson, Rock. 13; Rep. Sweeney, Rock. 25

COMMITTEE:      Finance

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ANALYSIS

This bill makes an appropriation to the department of environmental services to fund regional drinking water infrastructure.

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Explanation:     Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~  
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six*

AN ACT making an appropriation for regional drinking water infrastructure.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1           1 Department of Environmental Services; Appropriation. The sum of \$16,500,000 for the fiscal  
2 year ending June 30, 2027, is hereby appropriated to the department of environmental services for  
3 the purpose of funding regional drinking water infrastructure as part of Phase 2 of the Southern  
4 New Hampshire Regional Water Project to increase water supply by over 2 million gallons per day to  
5 multiple towns impacted by per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance contamination and growing water  
6 demands. The infrastructure shall include all ancillary projects needed, including but not limited to  
7 booster pumping stations, pressure reducing stations, water storage tanks, water mains, and all  
8 associated design, land acquisition, and construction permits. This sum shall be nonlapsing. No  
9 current public utility ratepayer shall be adversely affected by any direct or indirect costs to bring  
10 drinking water to communities receiving new services through any projects funded by this  
11 appropriation. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the  
12 treasury not otherwise appropriated.

13           2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

**SB 541-FN-A- FISCAL NOTE  
AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT making an appropriation for regional drinking water infrastructure.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

<b>Estimated State Impact</b>				
	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>	<b>FY 2029</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Revenue Fund(s)</i>	None			
<b>Expenditures*</b>	\$0	\$16,500,000	\$0	\$0
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	General Fund			
<b>Appropriations*</b>	\$0	\$16,500,000	\$0	\$0
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	General Fund			

\*Expenditure = Cost of bill

\*Appropriation = Authorized funding to cover cost of bill

<b>Estimated Political Subdivision Impact</b>				
	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>	<b>FY 2029</b>
<b>County Revenue</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>County Expenditures</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Local Revenue</b>	\$0	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase
<b>Local Expenditures</b>	\$0	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase

**METHODOLOGY:**

This bill appropriates \$16,500,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Environmental Services for the purpose of funding regional drinking water infrastructure as part of Phase 2 of Southern New Hampshire Regional Water Project. These funds are nonlapsing. Local revenues and expenditures will increase by an indeterminable amount based on when funds are received and when expenses occur for the water project

**AGENCIES CONTACTED:**

None