

SB 541-FN-A - AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

03/26/2026 1274s

2026 SESSION

26-2151

08/05

SENATE BILL

541-FN-A

AN ACT

relative to capital appropriations 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

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Makes an appropriation to the department of environmental services to the Pillsbury Lake Village District for the purpose of addressing loan costs associated with certain water system upgrades.

II. Requires a share of moneys appropriated to the department of environmental services in 2020 to be used for the Southern New Hampshire Regional Water Interconnection Project.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 relative to capital appropriations for regional drinking water infrastructure.

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

1 1 Project Amended; Department of Environmental Services. Amend 2020, 30:6 to read as
2 follows:

3 30:6 Capital Appropriation; Department of Environmental Services. The sum of \$50,000,000 is
4 hereby appropriated to the department of environmental services for capital expenditures for the
5 remediation of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances in the state's drinking water sources and
6 wastewater residuals, which expenditures may include loans to public or private entities on such
7 terms and conditions as the department of environmental services shall determine. ***Of the***
8 ***amounts appropriated, \$5,000,000 shall be a grant and used for the Southern New***
9 ***Hampshire Regional Water Interconnection Project, Phase 2B.*** To provide funds for the
10 appropriation made in this section, the state treasurer is hereby authorized to borrow upon the
11 credit of the state not exceeding the sum of \$50,000,000 and for said purpose may issue bonds and
12 notes in the name of and on behalf of the state of New Hampshire in accordance with RSA 6-13-e.
13 Notwithstanding the provisions of RSA 9:18, the appropriation made in this section shall not lapse.

14 2 Appropriation; Department of Environmental Services; Pipe, Water Filtration and Well
15 Upgrades; Pillsbury Lake Village District. Amend 2025, 141:380 to read as follows:

16 141:380 Appropriation; Department of Environmental Services; Pipe, Water Filtration, and Well
17 Upgrades; Pillsbury Lake Village District. The sum of \$325,000 for the biennium ending June 30,
18 2027, is appropriated to the department of environmental services to the Pillsbury Lake Village
19 District for the purpose of addressing ~~[loan]~~ costs associated with the following upgrades:

20 I. Piping Upgrades: \$155,000 to cover a loan used for upgrading the pipes under Concord
21 Drive in Webster.

22 II. Water Filtration Upgrade: \$105,000 to cover a loan for upgrading the water filtration
23 system.

24 III. ~~[New Well Development]~~ ***Water System Improvements:*** \$65,000 to cover ~~[a loan for~~
25 ~~digging a new well, known as the Franklin Pierce well, which requires less processing and will~~
26 ~~reduce overall costs]~~ ***water system improvements as agreed upon by both the department of***
27 ***environmental services and Pillsbury Lake Village District.***

28 The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not
29 otherwise appropriated.

30 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

SB 541-FN-A- FISCAL NOTE
AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE (AMENDMENT # 2026-1274s)

AN ACT relative to capital appropriations for regional drinking water infrastructure.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Estimated Political Subdivision Impact				
	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Local Revenue	\$0	Indeterminable Increase up to \$5,000,000		\$0
Local Expenditures	\$0	Indeterminable Increase up to \$5,000,000		\$0

METHODOLOGY:

This bill does not impact state or county revenue or expenditures.

Section one of this bill directs that \$5,000,000 of the existing \$50,000,000 capital appropriation made to the Department of Environmental Services in 2020 for the remediation of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances in the state’s drinking water sources and wastewater residuals be used as a grant for the Southern New Hampshire Regional Water Interconnection Project, Phase 2B. This funding will increase local revenue and expenditures by up to \$5,000,000.

Section two of this bill revises the purpose of \$65,000 of the appropriation enacted in Laws 2025, 141:380, from new well development to water system improvements, as agreed upon by both the Department of Environmental Services and the Pillsbury Lake Village District. This section further allows the Department to pay the District directly versus the District needing to take a loan out prior to submitting for reimbursement from the Department. This change may decrease costs to the District related to acquiring a loan.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

None