

General Assembly

February Session, 2022

Raised Bill No. 5201

LCO No. **1239**

Referred to Committee on ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by: (ET)

AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS IN THE ACQUISITION OF WATER COMPANIES.

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

Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 16-2620 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October* 1, 2022):

4 (a) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, in consultation with the 5 Department of Public Health, upon a determination that the costs of 6 improvements to and the acquisition of the water company are 7 necessary and reasonable, shall order the acquisition of the water 8 company by the most suitable public or private entity. In making such 9 determination, the authority shall consider: (1) The geographical 10 proximity of the plant of the acquiring entity to the water company, (2) 11 whether the acquiring entity has the financial, managerial and technical 12 resources to operate the water company in a reliable and efficient 13 manner and to provide continuous, adequate service to the persons 14 served by the company, (3) the current rates that the acquiring entity 15 charges its customers, (4) public health concerns, including, but not

limited to, any closed or active consent decrees or deficiencies identified 16 17 by the Department of Public Health relating to the water company, and 18 [(4)] (5) any other factors the authority deems relevant. Such order shall 19 authorize the recovery through rates of all reasonable costs of 20 acquisition and necessary improvements. A public entity acquiring a 21 water company beyond the boundaries of such entity may charge 22 customers served by the acquired company for water service and may, 23 to the extent appropriate, as determined by the governing body of the 24 public entity, recover through rates all reasonable costs of acquisition 25 and necessary improvements.

| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
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| Section 1 | October 1, 2022 | 16-262o(a) |
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ET Joint Favorable

PH Joint Favorable