
SENATE BILL 6285

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Senators Chase, Mullet, and McCoy

1 AN ACT Relating to water conservation appliances; adding a new
2 section to chapter 19.27 RCW; and creating a new section.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

5 (1) Water is vital to the survival of life on the planet and is
6 limited in supply. One way to help extend Washington's water supply is
7 by promoting water efficiency and enhancing the market for water
8 efficient products, programs, and practices;

9 (2) Bathrooms are, by far, the largest user of water inside the
10 home, responsible for about one-half of total indoor water use;

11 (3) Toilets account for approximately thirty percent of residential
12 indoor water consumption. Toilets are a major source of wasted water
13 due to leaks or inefficiencies. Under federal and state law, toilets
14 sold in the United States must not exceed 1.6 gallons per flush. High
15 efficiency toilets go beyond the standard and use less than 1.3 gallons
16 per flush. Power assist and pressure assist toilets use even less
17 water, some even less than one gallon of water per flush. Tests and
18 research demonstrate that high efficiency toilets work as well or
19 better than high volume toilets. If every home in the United States

1 replaced old toilets with new high efficiency toilets, the savings
2 would be more than twenty billion gallons of water a year in Washington
3 state; and

4 (4) Besides saving water and reducing a customer's costs, water
5 efficiency offers many other benefits:

6 (a) Less water withdrawn from rivers, lakes, and aquifers, which
7 keeps these water bodies healthy;

8 (b) Improved water quality due to increased river flows;

9 (c) Less energy required to pump and treat the water and
10 wastewater, therefore less greenhouse gas emissions;

11 (d) Less wastewater that requires collection, treatment, and
12 disposal; and

13 (e) Less pollution from treated wastewater in our streams and
14 waterways.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 19.27 RCW
16 to read as follows:

17 (1) By January 1, 2016, all toilets, other than institutional and
18 commercial toilets, toilets used by children in day care facilities,
19 and toilets used in bariatric applications, sold, offered for sale, or
20 distributed in this state must be high efficiency toilets.

21 (2) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
22 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

23 (a) "Commercial toilet" means a model that uses a nontank
24 pressurized flushing device, which means a device where a valve is
25 attached to a pressurized water supply pipe and designed that when
26 actuated, it opens the line for direct flow into the fixture at a rate
27 and quantity to properly operate the fixture and gradually closes in
28 order to avoid water hammer. The pipe to which this device is
29 connected is of sufficient size that, when open, the device delivers
30 water at a sufficient rate of flow for flushing purposes.

31 (b) "High efficiency toilet" means a toilet that meets the
32 performance, testing, and labeling requirements prescribed by American
33 society of mechanical engineers A112.19.2/Canadian standards
34 association B45.1-2008 standard ceramic plumbing fixtures and, if
35 applicable, American society of mechanical engineers A112.19.14-2006
36 standard six liter water closets equipped with a dual flushing device
37 and is either of the following:

1 (i) A dual flush toilet with an effective flush volume that does
2 not exceed 1.28 gallons as determined by American society of mechanical
3 engineers A112.19.14-2006 standard six liter water closets equipped
4 with a dual flushing device, where effective flush volume is defined as
5 the composite, average flush volume of two reduced flushes and one full
6 flush; or

7 (ii) A single flush toilet where the effective flush volume may not
8 exceed 1.28 gallons as determined by the test procedures contained in
9 American society of mechanical engineers A112.19.2/Canadian standards
10 association B45.1-2008 standard ceramic plumbing fixtures.

11 (c) "Institutional toilet" means any toilet fixture with a design
12 not typically found in residential or commercial applications or that
13 is designed for a specialized application, including, but not limited
14 to, wall-mounted wall outlet toilets, toilets used in jails or prisons,
15 toilets used in bariatrics applications, and child toilets used in day
16 care facilities.

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