

**First Regular Session
Seventy-Seventh General Assembly
STATE OF SAN ANDREAS**

ENGROSSED

LLS NO. 26-0715.02 Amirah Vasquez x2851

HOUSE BILL 26-010

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Petty

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Black, Cole, Enriquez, Mendoza

House Committees

Environment, Climate, & Wildfire Management

Senate Committees

Not assigned

A BILL FOR AN ACT

CONCERNING TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PURITY OF WATER AND AIR.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <https://saleg.uscgov.com>)

This bill establishes statewide standards for water and air purity testing, monitoring, and reporting to protect public health and environmental quality. The bill requires regular testing of public drinking water systems and expanded monitoring of air quality to ensure compliance with established environmental safety standards.

Under the bill, public water systems must conduct routine testing for contaminants such as heavy metals, bacteria, industrial chemicals, and agricultural runoff. The legislation

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Underlining denotes SENATE amendment.

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.

Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

requires immediate notification to the Department of Public Health and Environment and affected communities when contamination exceeds allowable limits. The Department is also directed to maintain air quality monitoring standards statewide and require emissions testing for major industrial sources.

The bill increases transparency by requiring the Department to maintain a publicly accessible online database containing air and water testing results, violation notices, and corrective actions. The legislation also provides enforcement authority for administrative penalties and compliance orders for entities that fail to meet testing or reporting requirements.

The purpose of the Act is to ensure consistent statewide environmental monitoring, improve public access to environmental information, and strengthen protections for clean air and safe drinking water.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of San*
2 *Andreas:*
3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.** This bill shall be known and cited
4 as the “Water and Air Purity Testing Act.” **SECTION 2.**
5 **LEGISLATIVE DECLARATION.** The General Assembly hereby
6 finds and declares that: (a) Clean air and safe drinking water are
7 fundamental to the health, safety, and welfare of residents of the
8 state. (b) Environmental contamination poses significant risks to
9 public health, economic stability, and natural resources. (c)
10 Regular monitoring, testing, and transparent reporting of air and
11 water quality are necessary to ensure compliance with
12 environmental standards and maintain public confidence. (d)
13 Advances in environmental science and monitoring technology
14 allow for more accurate and timely detection of pollutants. (e) It is
15 the intent of the General Assembly to establish consistent
16 statewide standards for testing, reporting, and enforcement
17 relating to air and water purity. **SECTION 3. DEFINITIONS.**
18 For purposes of this Act, unless the context otherwise requires: (a)

1 “Department” means the Department of Public Health and
2 Environment. (b) “Air contaminant” means any particulate matter,
3 gas, vapor, or chemical substance that may harm human health or
4 the environment. (c) “Water system” means any public or private
5 entity that provides water for human consumption or public use.
6 (d) “Testing entity” means a laboratory or agency certified by the
7 Department to conduct environmental testing. (e) “Purity
8 standards” means allowable concentration limits for contaminants
9 established by rule consistent with state and federal environmental
10 standards. **SECTION 4. WATER QUALITY TESTING**
11 **REQUIREMENTS.** (a) All public water systems shall conduct
12 routine testing for contaminants identified by the Department,
13 including but not limited to: (I) Lead and heavy metals; (II)
14 Bacteria and microbial contaminants; (III) Industrial chemicals;
15 (IV) Agricultural runoff contaminants; and (V) Any additional
16 substances identified by rule. (b) Testing shall occur at intervals
17 established by the Department; however, testing of primary
18 drinking water sources shall occur not less than quarterly, and
19 systems serving populations exceeding fifty thousand persons
20 shall conduct monthly contaminant monitoring for substances
21 identified as high-risk by the Department. (c) Upon detection of
22 contamination exceeding established purity standards, a water
23 system shall notify the Department immediately and shall provide
24 public notice to affected communities within twenty-four hours
25 through electronic notification, public posting, and direct
26 customer communication where practicable. (d) A water system
27 detecting contamination exceeding health-based limits shall
28 implement interim mitigation measures, including alternative
29 water supply notification or treatment actions, pending full
30 remediation. (e) Any contamination result exceeding purity
31 standards shall be confirmed through independent laboratory
32 verification within seventy-two hours unless immediate public
33 health action is required. **SECTION 5. AIR QUALITY**

1 MONITORING REQUIREMENTS. (a) The Department shall
2 establish and maintain air quality monitoring standards throughout
3 the state. (b) Industrial facilities and major emission sources shall
4 conduct periodic emissions testing and reporting as required by
5 rule. (c) The Department may require additional monitoring in
6 areas identified as having elevated pollution levels or increased
7 public health risk. (d) The Department shall establish continuous
8 air monitoring systems in areas designated as high-risk due to
9 industrial activity, wildfire exposure, population density, or
10 documented pollution exceedances. **SECTION 6. PUBLIC**
11 **REPORTING AND TRANSPARENCY.** (a) The Department shall
12 maintain a publicly accessible online database containing: (I)
13 Water quality testing results; (II) Air quality monitoring data; (III)
14 Notices of violations or exceedances; (IV) Corrective actions
15 taken; (V) Historical testing data for not less than five years; (VI)
16 Geographic mapping of contamination or pollution exceedances;
17 and (VII) Health advisory notices issued by state or local
18 authorities. (b) Reports shall be updated regularly and presented
19 in a format accessible to the public. (c) Public reporting required
20 under this section shall include plain-language summaries
21 explaining health risks associated with detected contaminants.
22 **SECTION 7. ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE.** (a) The
23 Department may issue notices of violation, corrective compliance
24 orders, administrative penalties proportional to the severity and
25 duration of violation, or mandatory remediation requirements. (b)
26 Continued or willful violations may result in suspension of
27 operating permits or referral for civil enforcement. (c) Nothing in
28 this Act limits existing enforcement authority under
29 environmental laws. **SECTION 7.5. TECHNICAL**
30 **ASSISTANCE.** (a) The Department shall establish technical
31 assistance and grant support programs for rural or small water
32 systems to achieve compliance with testing and reporting
33 requirements. **SECTION 8. RULEMAKING AUTHORITY.** The

1 Department of Public Health and Environment may promulgate
2 rules necessary to implement and enforce this Act, including
3 purity standards, testing procedures, and reporting requirements.
4 **SECTION 8.5. REPORTING.** (a) Beginning January 15, 2028,
5 the Department shall submit an annual report to the General
6 Assembly and the Governor summarizing: (I) Statewide
7 contamination trends; (II) Enforcement actions taken; (III)
8 Communities disproportionately affected by pollution; and (IV)
9 Recommendations for statutory improvements. **SECTION 9.**
10 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Act shall take effect after the 90-day
11 period after final adjournment of the Seventy-Seventh general
12 assembly.