

HB0335/464132/1

BY: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 335
(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike “System Development Charge” and substitute “Rates and Charges”; in line 3, after “Exemptions” insert “and Notification and Reimbursement of Increase in Usage”; in line 12, after “individuals;” insert “requiring the Commission to, if a meter reading for a property reflects a certain increase in water and sewerage usage, immediately notify and work with the property owner to identify the cause of the increase within a certain period of time; requiring the Commission to reimburse a property owner within a certain period of time for certain payments made if the increase in water and sewerage usage identified under this Act is due to a certain leak;”; in line 13, strike “District and the system development charge” and substitute “Commission’s rates and charges”; and in line 16, after “25-403” insert “and 25-504(a)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 4, after line 3, insert:

“25-504.

(a) **(1)** The Commission:

[(1)] (I) may provide for the billing and collection of the water and sewer usage charges on an estimated basis for periods of 6 months or less, based on the historical daily average consumption calculated from actual previous usage;

[(2)] (II) shall read the meter at least once every 6 months; and

(Over)

**HB0335/464132/1 Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
Amendments to HB 335
Page 2 of 3**

[(3) (i)] (III) 1. shall base the final bill for the 6-month period on the actual consumption adjusted by previous estimates, if the meter had not been read because it was inaccessible;

[(ii)] 2. shall base the final bill for the 6-month period on the historical daily average consumption, calculated from actual previous usage, if a final reading cannot be made because:

[1.] A. the meter malfunctioned;

[2.] B. the meter had been taken out of service for repairs, maintenance, or water system relining purposes; or

[3.] C. there was theft of service;

[(iii)] 3. may modify the historical daily average consumption calculation based on appropriate evidence submitted by the owner; and

[(iv)] 4. may not base a final bill on estimated usage for two consecutive 6-month periods.

(2) (I) WITHIN 5 DAYS AFTER A METER READING THAT REFLECTS A 75% INCREASE IN WATER AND SEWERAGE USAGE OVER THE PREVIOUS METER READING FOR A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, OR ON IDENTIFICATION OF A 75% INCREASE IN WATER AND SEWERAGE USAGE OVER THE PREVIOUS METER READING FOR THE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, WHICHEVER IS EARLIER, THE COMMISSION SHALL IMMEDIATELY:

1. NOTIFY THE PROPERTY OWNER OF THE INCREASE IN WATER AND SEWERAGE USAGE OVER THE PREVIOUS METER READING FOR THE PROPERTY; AND

2. WORK WITH THE PROPERTY OWNER TO IDENTIFY THE CAUSE OF THE INCREASE.

(II) IF THE INCREASE IN WATER AND SEWERAGE USAGE IDENTIFIED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH IS DUE TO A LEAK IN THE PROPERTY'S MAIN WATER OR SEWER LINE, THE COMMISSION SHALL REIMBURSE THE PROPERTY OWNER FOR ANY PAYMENTS MADE FOR THE EXTRA WATER AND SEWERAGE USAGE CAUSED BY THE LEAK WITHIN 90 DAYS OF THE LEAK BEING FIXED."