

# SENATE BILL NO. 686

October 13, 2021, Introduced by Senator MCCANN and referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 399, entitled  
"Safe drinking water act,"  
by amending section 9 (MCL 325.1009), as amended by 2017 PA 91.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           Sec. 9. (1) The department shall classify public water  
2 supplies, including water treatment and distribution systems at  
3 community supplies, with regard to size, type, location, and other  
4 physical conditions for the purpose of establishing the skill,  
5 knowledge, and experience that individuals need to maintain and

1 operate the systems effectively.

2 (2) The director shall appoint an advisory board of examiners  
3 ~~which~~**that** shall assist the department in the examination of  
4 individuals as to their competency to operate water treatment  
5 systems and water distribution systems. The advisory board shall  
6 make recommendations to the department relative to the  
7 certification of those individuals.

8 (3) The membership of the advisory board ~~shall consist~~  
9 **consists** of ~~2~~**all of the following**:

10 (a) **Two** certified water treatment operators. ~~2~~

11 (b) **Two** certified water distribution operators. ~~1~~

12 (c) **One** superintendent or manager of a supplier of water. ~~1~~

13 (d) **One** representative of the administrative branch of a local  
14 governmental agency. ~~2~~

15 (e) **Two** members of the public at large. ~~and 1~~

16 (f) **One** professor of sanitary or environmental engineering at  
17 a university in this state.

18 (4) A representative of the department shall be the nonvoting  
19 secretary for the board.

20 (5) ~~(4)~~For individuals meeting the requirements, the  
21 department shall issue certificates acknowledging their competency  
22 to operate a specified class of waterworks system or portion of  
23 waterworks system. The department may suspend or revoke a  
24 certificate as specified by rule.

25 (6) ~~(5)~~A public water supply ~~shall~~**must** be under the  
26 supervision of a properly certified operator as specified in the  
27 rules.

28 (7) ~~(6)~~Operators certified under this act shall renew their  
29 certificates in accordance with **the** rules promulgated under this

1 act, including mandatory continuing education or competency  
2 demonstration.

3       **(8)** ~~(7)~~—In accordance with section 3110 of the natural  
4 resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL  
5 324.3110, the department may conduct a program for training ~~persons~~  
6 **individuals** seeking to be certified as operators under this section  
7 and shall administer operator certification programs for ~~persons~~  
8 **individuals** seeking to be certified as operators under this  
9 section. Until October 1, ~~2021~~, **2025**, the department may charge  
10 fees for these programs in accordance with section 3110 of the  
11 natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451,  
12 MCL 324.3110. The department shall transmit fees collected under  
13 this section to the state treasurer for deposit into the operator  
14 training and certification fund created in section 3134 of the  
15 natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451,  
16 MCL 324.3134.