

# SENATE BILL NO. 271

March 24, 2021, Introduced by Senator CHANG and referred to the Committee on Environmental Quality.

A bill to prescribe the powers and duties of public water suppliers in this state; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state and local officers and entities; to require certain reporting requirements by public water suppliers; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

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

1           Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "water  
2 shutoff restoration act".

3           Sec. 2. As used in this act:

1 (a) "Public water supply" means that term as defined in  
2 section 2 of the safe drinking water act, 1976 PA 399, MCL  
3 325.1002.

4 (b) "Service area" means the area for which a public water  
5 supply collects payment for water service.

6 Sec. 3. (1) A public water supply shall not shut off water  
7 service to any occupied residence due to nonpayment. A public water  
8 supply must restore water service to any occupied residence where  
9 water service has been shut off due to nonpayment as long as the  
10 public water service does not have reason to believe that  
11 reconnection would create a risk to the public health due to an  
12 improper cross connection. To facilitate the restoration of water  
13 service, a public water supply must immediately make best efforts  
14 to determine those occupied residences within their service areas  
15 that do not have water service.

16 (2) If a public water supply determines that any occupied  
17 residence within its service area has had water shut off for any  
18 reason other than nonpayment, or that reconnection would create a  
19 risk to public health due to an improper cross connection, the  
20 public water supply must make best efforts to remedy these  
21 conditions and restore water service to those occupied residences  
22 as soon as possible.

23 Sec. 4. Any public water supply that has used water shutoffs  
24 as a remedy for nonpayment within the year preceding the effective  
25 date of this act and that has not submitted a report to the State  
26 of Michigan Emergency Operations Center before the effective date  
27 of this act that meets all of the following requirements must  
28 submit a supplemental report to the State of Michigan Emergency  
29 Operations Center every 30 days until the public water supply

1 submits a report that meets all of the following requirements:

2 (a) An account of the efforts that have been made to determine  
3 those occupied residences within the public water supply's service  
4 area that do not have water service.

5 (b) The number of occupied residences within the public water  
6 supply's service area that do not have water service as a result of  
7 nonpayment.

8 (c) The number of occupied residences within the public water  
9 supply's service area that do not have water service as a result of  
10 any reason other than nonpayment.

11 (d) A certification, if true, of all of the following:

12 (i) That best efforts have been exercised to determine those  
13 occupied residences within the service area that do not have water  
14 service.

15 (ii) That to the best of the public water supply's knowledge no  
16 occupied residences have their water service shut off due to  
17 nonpayment.

18 (iii) That the public water supply has reconnected water service  
19 for all occupied residences that can be reconnected without  
20 creating a potential risk to public health.

21 (iv) That the public water supply has exercised best efforts to  
22 remedy the conditions that prevent reconnection due to a risk to  
23 public health.

24 Sec. 5. This act does not abrogate the obligation of a  
25 resident to pay for water, prevent a public water supply from  
26 charging any customer for water service, or reduce the amount a  
27 resident may owe a public water supply.

28 Sec. 6. This act is repealed effective June 30, 2021.