

Second Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 18-0654.01 Jennifer Berman x3286

HOUSE BILL 18-1093

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Arndt, Thurlow, Bridges

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Coram, Guzman

House Committees

Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE ALLOWABLE USES OF RECLAIMED DOMESTIC
102 WASTEWATER, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, ALLOWING
103 RECLAIMED DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TO BE USED FOR FOOD
104 CROPS.

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 <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill codifies rules promulgated by the water quality control commission (commission) of the Colorado department of public health and environment concerning allowable uses of reclaimed domestic

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

wastewater, which is wastewater that has been treated for subsequent reuses other than drinking water.

Section 3 of the bill defines 3 categories of water quality standards for reclaimed domestic wastewater, sets forth the allowable uses for each water quality standard category, and adds food crop irrigation as an allowable use for reclaimed domestic wastewater. Section 3 also authorizes the commission to establish new categories of water quality standards and to recategorize any use of reclaimed domestic wastewater to a less stringent category of water quality standard. Section 3 also authorizes the division of administration in the department of public health and environment to grant variances for uses of reclaimed domestic wastewater.

Sections 1, 2, and 4 make conforming amendments.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-8-103, **amend**
3 (17.5) as follows:

4 **25-8-103. Definitions.** As used in this article 8, unless the context
5 otherwise requires:

6 (17.5) "Reclaimed domestic wastewater" means wastewater that
7 has received treatment IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 25-8-205.7 AND
8 that enables the wastewater to meet the requirements, prohibitions,
9 standards, and concentration limitations adopted by the commission for
10 subsequent reuses other than drinking.

11 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-8-205, **amend**
12 (1)(f) as follows:

13 **25-8-205. Control regulations.** (1) The commission may
14 promulgate control regulations for the following purposes:

15 (f) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 25-8-205.7, to describe
16 requirements, prohibitions, standards, and concentration limitations on the
17 reuse of reclaimed domestic wastewater for purposes other than drinking
18 that will protect public health and encourage the reuse of reclaimed

1 domestic wastewater;

2 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 25-8-205.7** as
3 follows:

4 **25-8-205.7. Control regulations for reuse of reclaimed**
5 **domestic wastewater - definitions - rules.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION,
6 UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

7 (a) "CATEGORY 1 STANDARD" MEANS A WATER QUALITY
8 STANDARD FOR RECLAIMED DOMESTIC WASTEWATER:

9 (I) REQUIRING, AT A MINIMUM, THAT THE WATER HAS RECEIVED
10 SECONDARY TREATMENT WITH DISINFECTION; AND

11 (II) FOR WHICH, AT THE POINT OF COMPLIANCE, THE WATER MEETS
12 THE E. COLI AND TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS STANDARDS PROMULGATED BY
13 THE COMMISSION FOR CATEGORY 1 WATER.

14 (b) "CATEGORY 2 STANDARD" MEANS A WATER QUALITY
15 STANDARD FOR RECLAIMED DOMESTIC WASTEWATER:

16 (I) REQUIRING, AT A MINIMUM, THAT THE WATER HAS RECEIVED
17 SECONDARY TREATMENT WITH FILTRATION AND DISINFECTION; AND

18 (II) FOR WHICH, AT THE POINT OF COMPLIANCE, THE WATER MEETS
19 THE E. COLI AND TURBIDITY STANDARDS PROMULGATED BY THE
20 COMMISSION FOR CATEGORY 2 WATER.

21 (c) "CATEGORY 3 STANDARD" MEANS A WATER QUALITY
22 STANDARD FOR RECLAIMED DOMESTIC WASTEWATER:

23 (I) REQUIRING, AT A MINIMUM, THAT THE WATER HAS RECEIVED
24 SECONDARY TREATMENT WITH FILTRATION AND DISINFECTION; AND

25 (II) FOR WHICH, AT THE POINT OF COMPLIANCE, THE WATER MEETS
26 THE E. COLI AND TURBIDITY STANDARDS PROMULGATED BY THE
27 COMMISSION FOR CATEGORY 3 WATER.

1 (d) "E. COLI" MEANS THE ESCHERICHIA COLI BACTERIA THAT ARE
2 FOUND IN THE ENVIRONMENT, FOODS, AND THE INTESTINES OF PEOPLE AND
3 ANIMALS.

4 (e) (I) "FOOD CROP" MEANS A CROP PRODUCED FOR DIRECT HUMAN
5 CONSUMPTION OR A TREE THAT PRODUCES NUTS OR FRUIT INTENDED FOR
6 DIRECT HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

7 (II) "FOOD CROP" DOES NOT INCLUDE A CROP PRODUCED FOR
8 ANIMAL CONSUMPTION ONLY; EXCEPT THAT A CROP PRODUCED WHERE
9 LACTATING DAIRY ANIMALS FORAGE IS A FOOD CROP.

10 (f) "POINT OF COMPLIANCE" MEANS A POINT, AS IDENTIFIED BY THE
11 PERSON THAT TREATS THE WATER, IN THE RECLAIMED DOMESTIC
12 WASTEWATER TREATMENT PROCESS OR THE RECLAIMED DOMESTIC
13 WASTEWATER TRANSPORTATION PROCESS, THAT OCCURS AFTER ALL
14 TREATMENT HAS BEEN COMPLETED BUT BEFORE DILUTION AND BLENDING
15 OF THE WATER HAS OCCURRED.

16 (2) RECLAIMED DOMESTIC WASTEWATER MAY BE USED AS
17 FOLLOWS:

18 (a) IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CATEGORY 1 STANDARD, FOR:

19 (I) EVAPORATIVE INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES;

20 (II) NONEVAPORATIVE INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES;

21 (III) NONDISCHARGING CONSTRUCTION AND ROAD MAINTENANCE;

22 (IV) LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION AT SITES WITH RESTRICTED ACCESS;

23 (V) ZOO OPERATIONS;

24 (VI) NONFOOD CROPS; AND

25 (VII) SILVICULTURE;

26 (b) IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CATEGORY 2 STANDARD, FOR:

27 (I) ALL OF THE USES FOR WHICH RECLAIMED DOMESTIC

1 WASTEWATER MAY BE USED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CATEGORY 1
2 STANDARD;

3 (II) WASHWATER APPLICATIONS;

4 (III) LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION AT SITES WITHOUT RESTRICTED
5 ACCESS;

6 (IV) COMMERCIAL LAUNDRIES;

7 (V) AUTOMATED VEHICLE WASHING;

8 (VI) MANUAL, NONPUBLIC VEHICLE WASHING;

9 (VII) NONRESIDENTIAL FIRE PROTECTION; AND

10 (VIII) IF USED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS
11 SECTION, IRRIGATION OF FOOD CROPS;

12 (c) IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CATEGORY 3 STANDARD, FOR:

13 (I) ALL OF THE USES FOR WHICH RECLAIMED DOMESTIC
14 WASTEWATER MAY BE USED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CATEGORY 1
15 STANDARD AND THE CATEGORY 2 STANDARD;

16 (II) LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION AT SITES THAT ARE CONTROLLED BY
17 RESIDENTS; AND

18 (III) RESIDENTIAL FIRE PROTECTION.

19 (3) IN ADDITION TO COMPLYING WITH THE CATEGORY 2 STANDARD
20 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(b)(VIII) OF THIS SECTION AND REGARDLESS
21 OF WHETHER THE USE IS FOR FOOD CROPS PRODUCED FOR COMMERCIAL
22 USE OR NONCOMMERCIAL USE, RECLAIMED DOMESTIC WASTEWATER MAY
23 BE USED FOR IRRIGATION OF FOOD CROPS ONLY IF THE USE MEETS THE
24 WATER QUALITY STANDARDS FOR COMMERCIAL CROPS SET FORTH IN THE
25 FEDERAL "FDA FOOD SAFETY MODERNIZATION ACT", PUB.L. 111-353, AS
26 AMENDED. IN PROMULGATING RULES FOR THE CATEGORY 2 STANDARD AT
27 THE POINT OF COMPLIANCE FOR USE OF RECLAIMED DOMESTIC

1 WASTEWATER FOR IRRIGATION OF FOOD CROPS, THE COMMISSION SHALL
2 NOT PROMULGATE ANY RULE THAT IS MORE STRINGENT THAN THE
3 RELEVANT STANDARDS SET FORTH IN THE FEDERAL "FDA FOOD SAFETY
4 MODERNIZATION ACT", PUB.L. 111-353, AS AMENDED.

5 (4) (a) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2019, THE COMMISSION
6 SHALL PROMULGATE RULES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION.

7 (b) IN PROMULGATING RULES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION,
8 THE COMMISSION:

9 (I) MAY CREATE NEW CATEGORIES OF WATER QUALITY
10 STANDARDS BEYOND THE THREE CATEGORIES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION;
11 AND

12 (II) MAY RECATEGORIZE ANY OF THE USES SET FORTH IN
13 SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION TO A LESS STRINGENT CATEGORY OF
14 WATER QUALITY STANDARD.

15 (c) THE COMMISSION, BY RULE, MAY AUTHORIZE ADDITIONAL USES
16 OF RECLAIMED DOMESTIC WASTEWATER FOR ANY OF THE CATEGORIES OF
17 WATER QUALITY STANDARDS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS
18 SECTION OR MAY CREATE A NEW CATEGORY OF WATER QUALITY
19 STANDARD FOR ONE OR MORE ADDITIONAL USES OF RECLAIMED DOMESTIC
20 WASTEWATER.

21 (5) THE DIVISION MAY GRANT A USER OF RECLAIMED DOMESTIC
22 WASTEWATER A VARIANCE FROM THE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS SET
23 FORTH IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION OR ESTABLISHED BY RULE BY
24 THE COMMISSION PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION IF THE
25 USER DEMONSTRATES TO THE DIVISION'S SATISFACTION THAT THE
26 PROPOSED USAGE OF RECLAIMED DOMESTIC WASTEWATER WILL
27 SUFFICIENTLY PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

1 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-8-308, **amend** (1)
2 introductory portion and (1)(h) as follows:

3 **25-8-308. Additional authority and duties of division -**
4 **penalties.** (1) In addition to the authority specified elsewhere in this
5 ~~article~~ ARTICLE 8, the division has the power to:

6 (h) Implement a program, in accordance with SECTION 25-8-205.7
7 AND rules and orders of the commission, for the reuse of reclaimed
8 domestic wastewater for purposes other than drinking.

9 **SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
10 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
11 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
12 8, 2018, if adjournment sine die is on May 9, 2018); except that, if a
13 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
14 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
15 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
16 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
17 November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
18 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.