



Sen. Dan Cronin

Filed: 3/11/2010

09600SB0580sam001

LRB096 06644 RLJ 38772 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 580

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 580 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Water Commission Act of 1985 is amended by
5 adding Sections 0.001, 0.001a, 0.001b, 0.001c, 0.001d, 0.001e,
6 0.001f, 0.001g, 0.001h, 0.001i, 0.001j, 0.001k, 0.001l, and
7 0.001m as follows:

8 (70 ILCS 3720/0.001 new)

9 Sec. 0.001. Purpose and findings. It is the purpose of this
10 amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly to abolish the
11 water commissions created by this Act and to transfer to the
12 respective home counties that are served by the water
13 commissions all assets, property, liabilities, rights, powers,
14 duties, and functions of the commissions.

15 The General Assembly finds and declares that it is
16 necessary and in the best interest of the people of the State

1 and the persons served by these commissions to change the
2 governance of the water systems created and functioning under
3 this Act. The changes made by this amendatory Act of the 96th
4 General Assembly are intended to save costs by eliminating an
5 unnecessary additional level of government, make the
6 governance of the water systems more responsive to the electors
7 and water users, serve more equitably the municipalities
8 receiving water, ensure the financial viability of the water
9 systems, spread the costs of the water systems more equitably
10 among the users, ensure proper financial and operational
11 oversight, and to ensure that government services are delivered
12 in a transparent and responsible manner.

13 It is not the intent of this amendatory Act of the 96th
14 General Assembly to change or permit the changing of any
15 financial covenants or obligations of a water commission
16 established under this Act to supply water.

17 (70 ILCS 3720/0.001a new)

18 Sec. 0.001a. Districts abolished; assets, property,
19 liabilities, rights, powers, duties, and functions assumed.
20 Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any water
21 commission established under this Act is abolished on December
22 1, 2011. On December 1, 2011, the home county serviced by a
23 water commission that is abolished by this amendatory Act of
24 the 96th General Assembly shall assume all assets, property,
25 liabilities, rights, powers, duties, and functions of the

1 abolished commission.

2 (70 ILCS 3720/0.001b new)

3 Sec. 0.001b. Transfer of personnel. On December 1, 2011,
4 personnel employed by a water commission that is abolished by
5 this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly are
6 transferred to the home county serviced by the commission. The
7 rights of these employees under collective bargaining
8 agreements are not affected by this amendatory Act of the 96th
9 General Assembly.

10 (70 ILCS 3720/0.001c new)

11 Sec. 0.001c. Transfer of property. Effective December 1,
12 2011, all books, records, documents, real and personal
13 property, unexpended appropriations, and pending business of a
14 water commission abolished under this amendatory Act of the
15 96th General Assembly are transferred and delivered to the home
16 county serviced by the water commission.

17 (70 ILCS 3720/0.001d new)

18 Sec. 0.001d. Taxes. Beginning on December 1, 2011, the
19 county board of a home county serviced by a water commission
20 abolished under this amendatory Act of the 96th General
21 Assembly shall have the power to levy and collect the tax set
22 forth in subsection (f) of Section 2 of this Act. The revenues
23 collected from this tax may be used only to repay the debts,

1 obligations, and operating expenses incurred by an abolished
2 water commission.

3 (70 ILCS 3720/0.001e new)

4 Sec. 0.001e. Water enterprise fund. On December 1, 2011,
5 the home county shall establish a water enterprise fund. All
6 moneys transferred to the home county under this amendatory Act
7 of the 96th General Assembly shall, for accounting purposes, be
8 stated separately in the water enterprise fund. If the home
9 county has an existing water fund, the moneys from the
10 abolished commission shall be kept as a separate fund in the
11 county treasury.

12 The home county must have an independent accredited auditor
13 conduct an annual audit of the fund. This audit shall be sent
14 to the Illinois Auditor General for review and comment. All
15 audits and findings by the auditors must be made available to
16 the public.

17 (70 ILCS 3720/0.001f new)

18 Sec. 0.001f. Water service for unincorporated areas. A
19 municipality with a water supply contract with a home county
20 serviced by a water commission abolished under Section 0.001a
21 shall provide water to unincorporated areas of that home county
22 that adjoin that municipality in accordance with the terms of
23 this Section. The provision of water by the municipality shall
24 be in accordance with an ordinance adopted by the home county.

1 The home county must find that the area to be served received
2 well water that is tainted, contaminated, or otherwise
3 substandard or the general safety of the area is compromised.
4 The ordinance of the home county shall designate the system
5 within the unincorporated area to receive and distribute
6 municipal water.

7 (70 ILCS 3720/0.001g new)

8 Sec. 0.001g. Water rate guarantee. Except to satisfy the
9 obligations of the abolished water commission, the water rates
10 charged to municipalities in effect on December 1, 2011 may be
11 increased only by an amount equal to the rate increases charged
12 to the home county for the purchase of the bulk water for a
13 period of 5 years. The home county must increase the rates
14 charged to municipalities by an amount equal to the rate
15 increases charged to the home county for the purchase of bulk
16 water in perpetuity no later than one month after the increases
17 take effect. Under no circumstances may the home county charge
18 a rate less than the rate of the bulk water purchased by the
19 home county. After the initial 5-year period, the home county
20 may not increase this rate above the bulk water rate without
21 the affirmative vote of three-fifths of the county board. All
22 other charges and fees levied by the abolished water commission
23 before December 1, 2011 may not be increased for a period of 5
24 years. After the initial 5-year period, the home county may not
25 increase the charges and fees levied by the abolished water

1 commission without the affirmative vote of three-fifths of the
2 county board.

3 (70 ILCS 3720/0.001h new)

4 Sec. 0.001h. Governance and oversight. The county board
5 shall, by resolution, create a Water Operations and Planning
6 Committee. The Water Operations and Planning Committee shall
7 consist of equal numbers of county board and municipal
8 representatives from each county board district and any other
9 members as determined by the county and municipal members.

10 The county board members shall be appointed by the
11 chairperson of the county board. Municipal members from each
12 county board district or other represented area shall be
13 appointed by a majority vote of the mayors of those
14 municipalities that have the greatest percentage of their
15 respective populations residing in the county board district or
16 other represented area, as applicable. All municipal and county
17 board representatives shall be entitled to a vote. The Water
18 Operations and Planning Committee shall adopt by-laws, by a
19 majority vote, to govern the functions of the committee and its
20 subcommittees. Officers of the committee shall include a chair
21 to be selected by the chairperson of the county board and a
22 vice-chair to be selected by the municipal representatives to
23 the committee.

24 The principal duties of the Water Operations and Planning
25 Committee shall be to provide direct oversight and guidance for

1 the functions of a dissolved commission and to provide
2 recommendations for consideration by the county board.

3 The Committee shall have no oversight over the DuPage
4 County Public Works water system.

5 (70 ILCS 3720/0.001i new)

6 Sec. 0.001i. Ordinances, orders, and resolutions.

7 (a) On December 1, 2011, the ordinances, orders, and
8 resolutions of a water commission abolished by this amendatory
9 Act of the 96th General Assembly that were in effect on
10 November 30, 2011 and that pertain to the assets, property,
11 liabilities, rights, powers, duties, and functions transferred
12 to the home county serviced by the abolished commission shall
13 become, with respect to that territory, the ordinances, orders,
14 and resolutions of the home county and shall continue in effect
15 until amended or repealed.

16 (b) Any ordinances, orders, or resolutions pertaining to
17 the assets, property, liabilities, rights, powers, duties, and
18 functions transferred to the home county under this amendatory
19 Act of the 96th General Assembly that have been proposed by a
20 water commission abolished by this amendatory Act of the 96th
21 General Assembly but have not taken effect or been finally
22 adopted by November 30, 2011 shall become, with respect to that
23 territory, the proposed ordinances, orders, and resolutions of
24 the home county, and any procedures that have already been
25 completed by the abolished water commission for those proposed

1 ordinances, orders, or resolutions need not be repeated.

2 (c) As soon as practical after December 1, 2011, the home
3 county shall revise and clarify the ordinances, orders, and
4 resolutions transferred to it under this amendatory Act of the
5 96th General Assembly. The home county may propose and adopt
6 other ordinances, orders, or resolutions as may be necessary to
7 consolidate and clarify the ordinances, orders, and
8 resolutions assumed under this amendatory Act of the 96th
9 General Assembly.

10 (70 ILCS 3720/0.001j new)

11 Sec. 0.001j. Cross references. Beginning on December 1,
12 2011, all references in other statutes, however phrased, to a
13 water commission abolished under this amendatory act of the
14 96th General Assembly shall be references to the home county in
15 its capacity as successor to the abolished water commission.

16 (70 ILCS 3720/0.001k new)

17 Sec. 0.001k. Savings provisions.

18 (a) The assets, property, liabilities, rights, powers,
19 duties, and functions transferred to a home county by this
20 amendatory Act of the 96th General assembly shall be vested in
21 that county subject to the provisions of this amendatory Act of
22 the 96th General Assembly. An act done by an abolished water
23 commission or by an officer, employee, or agent of the
24 abolished water commission with respect to the transferred

1 assets, property, liabilities, rights, powers, duties, or
2 functions shall have the same legal effect as if done by the
3 home county or by an officer, employee, or agent of the home
4 county.

5 (b) The transfer of assets, liabilities, rights, powers,
6 duties, and functions under this amendatory Act of the 96th
7 General Assembly does not invalidate any previous action taken
8 by or in respect to an abolished water commission or its
9 officers, employees, or agents. References to an abolished
10 water commission or to its officers, employees, or agents in
11 any document, contract, agreement, or law shall, in appropriate
12 contexts, be deemed to refer to the home county or to its
13 officers, employees, or agents.

14 (c) The transfer of assets, property, liabilities, rights,
15 powers, duties, and functions under this amendatory Act of the
16 96th General Assembly does not affect any person's rights,
17 obligations, or duties, including any applicable civil or
18 criminal penalties, arising out of those transferred assets,
19 property, liabilities, rights, powers, duties, and functions.

20 (d) With respect to matters pertaining to an asset,
21 liability, right, power, duty, or function transferred to a
22 home county under this amendatory Act of the 96th General
23 Assembly:

24 (1) Beginning December 1, 2011, a report or notice that
25 was previously required to be made or given by any person
26 to an abolished water commission or to any of its officers,

1 employees, or agents must be made or given in the same
2 manner to the home county or to its appropriate officer,
3 employee, or agent.

4 (2) Beginning December 1, 2011, a document that was
5 previously required to be furnished or served by any person
6 to or upon an abolished water commission or to or upon any
7 of its officers, employees, or agents must be furnished or
8 served in the same manner to or upon the home county or to
9 or upon its appropriate officer, employee, or agent.

10 (e) This amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly does
11 not affect any act done, ratified, or cancelled, any right
12 occurring or established, or any action or proceeding had or
13 commenced in an administrative, civil, or criminal cause before
14 December 1, 2011. Any action or proceeding that pertains to an
15 asset, property, liability, right, power, duty, or function
16 transferred to a home county under this Act and that is pending
17 on October 1, 2011 may be prosecuted, defended, or continued by
18 the home county.

19 (70 ILCS 3720/0.0011 new)

20 Sec. 0.0011. Disputes. Any disputes that arise as a result
21 of the abolishment of a water commission and the assumption by
22 the home county of the assets, property, liabilities, rights,
23 powers, duties, and functions of the abolished commission shall
24 be resolved by an appropriate action commenced in the circuit
25 court.

1 (70 ILCS 3720/0.001m new)

2 Sec. 0.001m. Home rule. A home rule unit may not regulate
3 its water systems in a manner that is inconsistent with the
4 provisions of this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly.
5 This Section is a limitation under subsection (i) of Section 6
6 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution on the concurrent
7 exercise by home rule units of powers and functions exercised
8 by the State.

9 Section 10. The State Mandates Act is amended by adding
10 Section 8.34 as follows:

11 (30 ILCS 805/8.34 new)

12 Sec. 8.34. Exempt mandate. Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8
13 of this Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for the
14 implementation of any mandate created by this amendatory Act of
15 the 96th General Assembly.

16 Section 97. Severability. The provisions of this Act are
17 severable under Section 1.31 of the Statute on Statutes.

18 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
19 becoming law."