

25104793D

SENATE BILL NO. 1408

Offered January 14, 2025

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 32.1-174.5, relating to Department of Health; waterworks; mandatory reporting of anomalies; negligence.*

Patron—Reeves; Delegate: Scott, P.A.

Referred to Committee on Education and Health

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 32.1-174.5 as follows:

§ 32.1-174.5. Mandatory reporting of anomalies.

A. As used in this section, "waterworks" means the same as § 32.1-167.

B. Owners of waterworks shall report any operational anomaly, regardless of severity, that could affect water quality, public health, or service continuity, including pump failures, equipment malfunctions, unusual odors, leaks, chemical imbalances, and changes in water pressure, to the Department's Office of Drinking Water (the Office) within 24 hours of discovery. Any critical equipment failure, including a pump failure or any other malfunction that poses an immediate risk to public health or disrupts water service, shall be reported to the Office within six hours of discovery.

C. Failure to comply with the reporting requirements of this section shall constitute negligence. Failure to comply with the critical equipment failure reporting requirements shall constitute gross negligence.

INTRODUCED

SB1408