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1 **HOUSE BILL NO. 537**

2 Offered January 14, 2026

3 Prefiled January 13, 2026

4 *A BILL to amend and reenact § 32.1-170 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Board of Health; regulations*  
5 *governing waterworks; prohibition on fluoridation of water.*

6 Patron—Hamilton

7 Committee Referral Pending

8 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**9 **1. That § 32.1-170 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**10 **§ 32.1-170. Regulations.**11 A. The regulations of the Board governing waterworks, water supplies, and pure water shall be designed  
12 to protect the public health and promote the public welfare and shall include criteria and procedures to  
13 accomplish these purposes.

14 The regulations may include, without limitation:

15 1. Requirements and procedures for the issuance of permits required by this article;

16 2. Minimum health and aesthetic standards for pure water;

17 3. Minimum standards for the quality of water which may be taken into a waterworks;

18 4. Criteria for the siting, design, and construction of water supplies and waterworks;

19 5. Requirements for inspections, examinations, and testing of raw or finished water;

20 6. A requirement that owners submit (i) regular samples of water for bacteriological, chemical,  
21 radiological, physical, or other tests or (ii) the results of such tests from such laboratory as may be acceptable  
22 to the Commissioner;

23 7. Requirements for record keeping and reporting;

24 8. Methodology for determining the waterworks operation fee authorized by § 32.1-171.1;

25 9. Requirements and criteria for the development and maintenance of an emergency management plan for  
26 each community public water supply for the provision of pure water during any extended power outage; and

27 10. Such other provisions as may be necessary to guarantee a supply of pure water.

28 B. The regulations of the Board governing waterworks, water supplies, and pure water shall include a  
29 procedure whereby waterworks serving fewer than 10,000 people may seek and the Board may grant a waiver  
30 of any requirement that the waterworks mail copies of its consumer confidence report to each customer of the  
31 waterworks at least once annually. In such cases, the waterworks owner shall publish, by July 1 of each year,  
32 in a newspaper of general circulation serving the area served by the waterworks, and by such other means as  
33 the Board may deem appropriate, (i) a copy of the consumer confidence report, (ii) notice that copies of the  
34 consumer confidence report will not be mailed to customers of the waterworks, and (iii) notice that copies of  
35 the consumer confidence report shall be made available to the public upon request. The waterworks owner  
36 shall certify compliance with the requirements of this subsection to the Board no later than October 1 of each  
37 year.38 C. The regulations of the Board governing waterworks shall include provisions prohibiting fluoridation of  
39 water. Such regulations shall prevent any waterworks from adding any fluoride or fluoride compounds,  
40 including commercial sodium fluoride, sodium fluorosilicate (also called sodium silicofluoride), and  
41 fluorosilicic acid (also called hydrofluorosilicic acid) to pure water. Such regulations shall include  
42 provisions requiring testing for fluoridation to be included in the chemical monitoring requirements for  
43 waterworks.

INTRODUCED

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