

House Bill 552 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Barnard of the 166<sup>th</sup>, Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>, Lane of the 167<sup>th</sup>, Bryant of the 160<sup>th</sup>, Williams of the 178<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 3 of Article 3 of Chapter 5 of Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia  
2 Annotated, relating to water well standards, so as to change certain provisions relating to  
3 standards for wells and boreholes; to change certain provisions relating to bonds and letters  
4 of credit for water well contractors or drillers; to provide for an effective date and  
5 applicability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Part 3 of Article 3 of Chapter 5 of Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
9 relating to water well standards, is amended in Code Section 12-5-134, relating to standards  
10 for wells and boreholes, by deleting "and" at the end of paragraph (5), replacing the period  
11 at the end of paragraph (6) with "; and", and adding a new paragraph (7) to read as follows:

12 "(7) No well or borehole shall be drilled or used for the purpose of injecting any surface  
13 water into the Floridan aquifer in any county governed by the Georgia coastal zone  
14 management program provided by Code Section 12-5-327 before July 1, 2014."

15 **SECTION 2.**

16 Said part is further amended by revising subsection (i) of Code Section 12-5-135, relating  
17 to bonds and letters of credit for water well contractors or drillers, as follows:

18 "(i) No bond or irrevocable letter of credit provided for in this Code section shall be  
19 accepted by the director from any water well contractor or driller who shall drill any well  
20 or borehole for the purpose of injecting any surface water into the floridan aquifer in any  
21 county governed by the Georgia coastal zone management program provided by Code  
22 Section 12-5-327 after July 1, 2003, and before ~~December 31, 2009~~ July 1, 2014."

23

**SECTION 3.**

24 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
25 without such approval and shall apply to wells or boreholes and drilling wells or boreholes  
26 on or after such date.

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**SECTION 4.**

28 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.