

By: Senator(s) Michel

To: Public Health and Welfare

SENATE BILL NO. 2562

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-26-101, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO EXEMPT FROM MANAGEMENT TRAINING REQUIREMENTS THE BOARD MEMBERS
3 OF COMMUNITY PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS OPERATED BY MUNICIPALITIES WITH
4 A POPULATION GREATER THAN 10,000; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 41-26-101, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 41-26-101. (1) Each member elected or reelected after June
9 30, 1998, to serve on a governing board of any community public
10 water system, except systems operated by municipalities with a
11 population greater than ten thousand (10,000), shall attend a
12 minimum of eight (8) hours of management training within two (2)
13 years following the election of that board member. Any member
14 failing to complete the management training within two (2) years
15 after his election shall be subject to removal from the board by
16 the remaining members. If a board member has undergone training
17 and is reelected to the board, that board member shall not be
18 required to attend training as provided by this subsection.

19 (2) The management training shall be organized by the State
20 Department of Health, in cooperation with the Mississippi Rural
21 Water Association and other organizations. The management
22 training shall include information on water system management and
23 financing, rate setting and structures, operations and
24 maintenance, applicable laws and regulations, ethics, the duties
25 and responsibilities of a board member and other information
26 deemed necessary by the department after consultation with the
27 association and other organizations. The department shall develop
28 and provide all training materials. The department may charge a

29 fee not to exceed Seventy-five Dollars (\$75.00) per member to
30 defray the actual costs of providing the materials and training.
31 These costs shall be reimbursed to the board member as an expense
32 of the community public water system.

33 (3) To avoid board members having to interfere with their
34 jobs or employment, management training sessions may be divided
35 into segments and, to the greatest extent possible, shall be
36 scheduled for evening sessions. The department shall conduct
37 management training on a regional basis and shall use community
38 college or other public facilities for the convenience of board
39 members.

40 (4) The department may make exceptions to and grant
41 exemptions and variances to the requirements of this section for
42 good cause shown.

43 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
44 and after July 1, 2007.