

Prior law provided for the creation of the Louisiana Standards for Water Works Construction, Operation, and Maintenance Committee (committee) within Dept. of Health and Hospitals to develop standards to be placed in the state Sanitary Code for water works construction, operation, and maintenance. Further provided that no later than August 1, 2014, the office of public health shall promulgate rules and regulations pursuant to the APA implementing the standards developed by the committee. Further provided for the membership of the committee, and provides for the calling of the first meeting and for quorum requirements. Further provided for compliance with the Open Meetings Law and for location of meetings of the committee. Further provided for administrative support.

New law removes August 1, 2014, deadline and provides authority of the committee to develop and approve rules and regulations to repeal, revise, and replace LAC 51:XII Chapters 1 and 3 of the Sanitary Code. Requires that these rules and regulations include but not be limited to rules and regulations for water works constructions, operation, and maintenance and the list of significant deficiencies contemplated in prior law. Provides that LAC 51:XII Chapters 5 through 19 shall continue to be revised by the state health officer in accordance with the APA.

Prior law provided that the office of public health shall promulgate rules and regulations pursuant to the APA implementing the standards developed by the committee.

Prior law provided the rules and regulations for the Louisiana Standards for Water Works Construction, Operation, and Maintenance shall not be promulgated until the proposed rules and regulations or changes thereto are approved by DHH and approved by a majority vote of the committee.

Prior law provided that DHH is not prohibited from promulgating rules to secure or maintain from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) primacy in drinking water regulation provided these rules are limited only to what is required to secure or maintain primacy. New law requires that the committee approve, at a minimum, rules and regulations necessary for the state to maintain drinking water program primacy from the EPA and that DHH promulgate only committee approved rules as necessary to secure or maintain this primacy.

Effective upon signature of the governor (June 5, 2014).

(Amends R.S. 40:4.13)