

HOUSE BILL 1228

By Towns

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 6;  
Title 7; Title 58; Title 65 and Title 69, relative to  
municipalities.

WHEREAS, protecting critical infrastructure facilities in the event of a natural disaster or grid failure is an essential aspect of ensuring the integrity of vital municipal services and resources; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial for municipalities to maintain reliable infrastructures for the continued operation of municipal facilities such as wastewater treatment plants and emergency and medical facilities; and

WHEREAS, the development of contingency plans by municipalities will ensure the continued operation of systems that are vital to local governments during disasters, thus helping to mitigate damage and suffering in our communities; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 6, Chapter 54, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as new sections:

**6-54-142.**

(a) Municipal legislative bodies shall adopt, by ordinance or resolution, contingency plans to develop emergency backup systems for the continued operation of:

- (1) Electric systems, as defined in § 7-52-303, to the extent the systems are owned and operated by municipalities;
- (2) Water distribution systems, as defined in § 68-221-903;
- (3) Wastewater treatment plants, as defined in § 68-221-903;
- (4) Water supply systems, as defined in § 68-221-903; and

(5) Water treatment plants, as defined in § 68-221-903.

(b) The plans adopted pursuant to subsection (a) may be developed in coordination with the Tennessee emergency management agency.

(c) This section shall apply only to municipalities having a population of not less than forty thousand (40,000), according to the 2010 federal census or any subsequent federal census.

**6-54-143.**

(a) Municipalities shall conduct a study of their existing water supplies every five (5) years to evaluate water quality and the potential for water shortages, and to identify alternative water sources.

(b) This section shall apply only to municipalities having a population of not less than forty thousand (40,000), according to the 2010 federal census or any subsequent census.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016, the public welfare requiring it.