

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
Vote:	6 - 1 - 1
Yeas:	Bailey, Barnhart, Boone, Jenson, Smith J., Cannon
Nays:	Gilliam
Exc.:	Bentz
Prepared By:	Beth Patrino, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	1/22, 2/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires person who drills certain types of geotechnical holes to submit a report to the Water Resources Department within 30 days of drilling. Applies to geotechnical holes greater than 18 feet deep, within 50 feet of a water supply or monitoring well, used to determine water quality and open less than 72 hours or drilled in an area known or reasonably suspected to be contaminated. Identifies person responsible for submittal of report. Authorizes department to adopt rules prescribing the form of the report. Sets recording fee for each report at \$25; except if more than one geotechnical hole is drilled within seven days at the same project site, sets recording fee at \$10 for each subsequent hole. Establishes Water Resources Department Geotechnical Fund and directs that fee revenue be appropriated to department for duties, functions and powers related to geotechnical holes. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Types of geotechnical holes
- Uses of report information
- Existing fund for well start card fees

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Clarifies that fee applies to holes drilled to assess water quality that are open less than 72 hours. Authorizes Water Resources Commission to adopt rules prescribing the form, content, filing deadline and other requirements for reports. Establishes Water Resources Department Geotechnical Fund. Directs that fee revenue be appropriated to Water Resources Department for duties, functions and powers related to geotechnical holes.

BACKGROUND: Geotechnical holes are drilled or constructed to evaluate subsurface data for a variety of reasons, including to test soils and ground water for the presence of contaminants. These holes are not considered wells and are not subject to the same requirements as water wells or monitoring wells.

Drillers of geotechnical holes submit information to the Water Resources Department that is entered into the department's data base and posted on-line. Currently, no fee is required to be submitted with this information. The department reports receiving paperwork during the 2006-2007 fiscal year on approximately 8,500 geotechnical holes.