

As Introduced

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Representative Hall

Representatives Boose, Thompson, Hambley, Baker, Perales, Blessing, Schaffer

A BILL

To enact sections 6109.40, 6109.41, and 6111.33 of
the Revised Code to establish requirements
governing the training of employees of publicly
owned treatment works and public water systems
to monitor and test for harmful algae, the
development of emergency plans by certain public
water systems to respond to harmful algal
blooms, and the development of an early warning
system for harmful algal blooms, and to require
the Director of Natural Resources to study the
impact of certain species on Lake Erie.

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

Section 1. That sections 6109.40, 6109.41, and 6111.33 of
the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 6109.40. (A) If the water supply for a public water
system is susceptible to harmful algal blooms as determined by
the director of environmental protection under this section, the
owner or operator of the public water system, in consultation
with the director and the director of natural resources, shall
develop an emergency plan to respond to harmful algal blooms

that threaten the system's water supply.

(B) For purposes of division (A) of this section, the
director of environmental protection shall determine which
bodies of water that supply water to public water systems are
susceptible to harmful algal blooms and shall so notify the
applicable public water systems.

(C) The director, in coordination with the director of
natural resources, shall provide technical assistance to public
water systems in the development of emergency plans to respond
to harmful algal blooms.

Sec. 6109.41. The director of environmental protection, in
consultation with the director of natural resources, shall
develop an early warning system for harmful algal blooms in
waters of the state. The director of environmental protection
shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised
Code that establish both of the following:

(A) Requirements and procedures for the activation of the
early warning system and dissemination of information via the
system;

(B) Any other requirements and procedures necessary for
the administration of this section.

Sec. 6111.33. (A) The director of environmental protection
or the director's designee shall conduct training for employees
of publicly owned treatment works and public water systems, as
defined in section 6109.01 of the Revised Code, to monitor and
test for harmful algae and cyanotoxins in water. The directors
of agriculture, health, and natural resources shall provide
assistance, as necessary, to the director of environmental
protection for the training. The director or the director's

designee shall conduct the training in accordance with 49
procedures established in rules adopted under division (B) of 50
this section. 51

(B) The director shall adopt rules in accordance with 52
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code that establish procedures for 53
and topics to be included in the training of employees of 54
publicly owned treatment works and public water systems under 55
division (A) of this section. 56

Section 2. The Director of Natural Resources shall study 57
the impacts, including economic and environmental, that Canada 58
geese (*Branta canadensis*) and zebra mussels (*Dreissena* 59
polymorpha) have had on the water quality and uses of Lake Erie. 60

Not later than two hundred seventy days after the 61
effective date of this section, the Director shall issue a 62
report of the Director's findings and recommendations to the 63
committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate that 64
are primarily responsible for agriculture and natural resources 65
matters. 66