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HOUSE BILL NO. 1949

Offered January 9, 2019

Prefiled January 6, 2019

A BILL to amend and reenact § 32.1-248.2 of the Code of Virginia, relating to rainwater harvesting; water for human consumption.

Patron—Webert

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 32.1-248.2 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 32.1-248.2. Use of rainwater and reuse of gray water; regulations.**

A. The Board shall adopt regulations regarding the use of gray water and rainwater. The regulations, which shall (i) describe the conditions under which gray water and rainwater may appropriately be used and for what purposes; (ii) include categories of gray water, such as types of used household water and used water from businesses, that are appropriate for reuse; and (iii) include a definition of gray water that excludes used toilet water. The regulations shall also provide standards for

B. The Board shall adopt regulations governing the use of rainwater, which shall include standards for rainwater harvesting systems, including (i) rainwater harvesting systems that collect rainwater for human consumption, as defined in § 32.1-167, and (ii) rainwater harvesting systems for use by commercial enterprises but that do not provide water for human consumption, as defined in § 32.1-167. Regulations governing rainwater harvesting systems that collect rainwater for human consumption, as defined in § 32.1-167, shall include a provision recognizing rainwater harvesting systems that produce water that meets minimum health and aesthetic standards for pure water adopted by the Board as acceptable sources of water for human consumption, as defined in § 32.1-167.

Such regulations C. Regulations adopted by the Board pursuant to subsections A and B shall not apply to water not for human consumption, as defined in § 32.1-167, including gray water and rainwater, that is produced and utilized by any facility that is permitted through a Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit or General Virginia Pollution Abatement permit.

B. D. The Department, in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Quality, shall (i) promote the use of rainwater and reuse of gray water as means to reduce fresh water consumption, ease demands on public treatment works and water supply systems, and promote conservation-

C. The Department, in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Quality, shall and (ii) consider recognizing rainwater other than rainwater collected by rainwater harvesting systems recognized as acceptable sources of water for human consumption, as defined in § 32.1-167, in accordance with regulations adopted pursuant to subsection B as an independent source of fresh water available for use by the residents of the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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