

Subject Wastewater Treatment

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Overview

This bill requires the Pollution Control Agency (PCA) to amend its rules for certifying wastewater treatment plant operators and use the expedited rulemaking process to do so. The rules must provide new paths to certification for Class C and Class D operators. Class C and Class D operators work on smaller systems and small communities are reporting difficulty in recruiting operators.

The rules would change the qualifications for receiving certification as a Class C operator by allowing certification of those who have completed a postsecondary program in water or wastewater technology approved by the commissioner and at least one year of experience (under current rules, they must have a high school diploma or its equivalent and least three years of experience OR a bachelor's degree and one year of experience).

The rules would change the qualifications for receiving certification as a Class D operator by allowing certification of those who have six months of experience (under current rules, they must have a high school diploma or its equivalent AND one year of experience or have completed a postsecondary program in water or wastewater technology approved by the commissioner).