

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

LS 6276

BILL NUMBER: HB 1379

NOTE PREPARED: Nov 18, 2025

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Ground Water.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Campbell

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: The bill establishes the Ground Water and Aquifer Preservation Task Force to recommend water regulations to the Legislative Council. It creates a two-year moratorium on the establishment of certain major ground water withdrawal facilities (MWWFs) during the period beginning May 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2028. It provides an exception to the moratorium.

Effective Date: Upon passage.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The bill establishes a 13-member task force consisting of three lay members, appointed by the Governor, and 10 legislators. The task force is to operate under the policies governing study committees adopted by the Legislative Council. Legislative Council resolutions in the past have established budgets for interim study committees in the amount of \$13,500 per interim for committees with fewer than 16 members. Expenses for the task force, including per diem and travel expenses, are to be paid out of appropriations to the Legislative Council. The task force must meet at least three times in CY 2026 and at least four times in CY 2027. The task force must submit a report with findings and recommendations by December 1, 2027.

The Legislative Services Agency (LSA) is to staff the task force. The LSA should be able to accomplish this using existing staffing and resources.

Additional Information: The bill defines a ground water withdrawal facility (GWWF) as having a total withdrawal capacity of less than 10 million gallons per day and a total pipeline transport capacity of less than 5 million gallons per day. It defines a MWWF as having a total withdrawal capacity of *at least* 10 million gallons per day and a total pipeline transport capacity of *at least* 5 million gallons per day.

For the period beginning May 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2028, the bill provides that a MWWF may only be established in the Wabash River Basin if a county executive adopts an order allowing for its establishment. If water will be withdrawn from or transported through more than one county, each county must adopt an order to allow for its establishment.

This provision, as well as the provision prohibiting the use of state funds *to plan for* the establishment of a MWWF in the Wabash River Basin, do not apply to an operating GWWF that increases its current capability for withdrawal or pipeline transport by no more than 2 million gallons per day or to a MWWF for which a contract was entered into before January 1, 2026.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: General Assembly; Legislative Services Agency.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: HEA 1001-2025;
<https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates>;
<https://www.in.gov/idoa/procurement/travel-services>.

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