

## SENATE BILL No. 6

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### DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 32-24-4-5.

**Synopsis:** Extension of water services. Provides that a public utility must conduct an outreach program before it condemns land for the purpose of extending a water or wastewater main. Establishes certain meeting and notice requirements for the outreach program.

**Effective:** July 1, 2026.

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**Niemeyer**

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December 8, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Local Government.

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Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 6

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning property.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 32-24-4-5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
2 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
3 1, 2026]: **Sec. 5. (a) A public utility may not take, acquire,**  
4 **condemn, or appropriate land, real estate, or any interest in the**  
5 **land or real estate for the purpose of extending a water or**  
6 **wastewater main unless the public utility conducts an outreach**  
7 **program under subsection (b).**  
8 **(b) Not earlier than four (4) months before a public utility**  
9 **presents an offer of purchase under IC 32-24-1-5, the public utility**  
10 **shall conduct an outreach program to inform citizens regarding the**  
11 **proposed extension. The outreach program must conduct at least**  
12 **two (2) public information meetings regarding the proposed**  
13 **extension. The public information meetings must provide citizens**  
14 **with the following information:**  
15 **(1) Maps showing the proposed boundaries of the extension.**  
16 **(2) The expected completion date of the total extension**  
17 **project.**



(3) The nature of the work the public utility would complete on each parcel of land needed or intended to be taken for the extension.

(c) The public utility shall provide notice of the dates, times, and locations of the outreach program meetings in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the extension is proposed not later than thirty (30) days before the date of each meeting. The public utility shall also send notice to each owner of land, if the person's land is needed or intended to be taken for the extension, not later than thirty (30) days before the date of the first meeting of the outreach program. The notice to landowners shall be sent by first class mail, certified mail with return receipt requested, or any other means of delivery that includes a return receipt and must include the following information:

(1) A statement that:

(A) the public utility intends to extend a water or wastewater main;

(B) the landowner's property is needed for the extension; and

(C) the public utility can acquire land through condemnation if certain conditions are met.

(2) The public utility is conducting an outreach program for the purpose of providing information to landowners and the public regarding the proposed extension.

(3) The date, time, and location of the meetings to be conducted under the outreach program.

(d) The notice shall be sent to the address of the landowner as listed on the tax duplicate. If the public utility provides evidence that the notice was sent:

(1) by certified mail, with return receipt requested, or any other means of delivery that includes a return receipt; and

(2) in accordance with this section;

it is not necessary that the landowner accept receipt of the notice.

(e) A public utility shall provide notice of a project to extend a water or wastewater main to a county zoning authority that has jurisdiction over the area.

