

January 24, 1962

NOTES FOR LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
of
40:14B-1 et seq.
County & Municipal Water & Sewerage Disposal Authorities

Previous bills:

1956 - S-329

Introduced May 28th by Mr. McCay. Had no statement. Passed both houses without amendment. Filed in State Library by Governor, with statement (~~copy of~~ Governor's statement enclosed)

Laws 1957 - Chapter 183

Senate 260. Introduced May 13, 1957 by Mr. McCay.
May 27th - Passed Senate
June 17th - Passed in Assembly - Amended
June 17th - Passed in Senate (with Assembly amendment)

No statement on bill
~~copy of~~

No hearings or reports were located on either of these bills.

Checked the following without success.
NJ Municipalities, 1956, 1957.

For general background on local government authorities in NJ see:
J352 Smith, Rober G.
S658 Public authorities, special and local government.

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Executive Department

SENATE BILL NO. 329

STATEMENT

I am filing Senate Bill No. 329 in the State Library without my approval.

Senate Bill No. 329 would authorize the creation and establishment by municipalities and counties of an authority with power to operate water systems and sewage disposal systems, to issue bonds to finance the cost thereof and to impose and collect charges for sewer and water services.

The Legislature adjourned sine die on January 8, 1957, at which time this bill was delivered to me. Under the Constitution, Article V, Section I, paragraph 14(b), the Governor has 45 days, Sundays excepted, after such adjournment within which to sign this measure if he shall approve it. Failing such approval the bill does not become law. In such a situation the Constitution does not provide for a veto, but since I have determined not to approve this bill, I deem it to be in the public interest to state the reasons for my decision.

Existing law permits the creation of a sewerage authority. There would appear to be merit in a suggestion that legislation be adopted authorizing the creation of a municipal authority with the combined function of dealing with water supply and sewerage services. But the bill in its present form presents many serious questions of both policy and procedure.

The bill is 43 pages in length and contains 35 sections. Broad and substantially unrestricted powers are given to the proposed authorities. Grant of such broad, unrestricted powers and discretion, coupled as it is with a broad covenant by the State purporting to limit the State's power to deal in the future with certain aspects of the problems of water supply and sewage disposal, is not in the public interest. So too, by way of example, and not by way of limitation, the provisions of the bill relating to the acquisition and condemnation of water supply sources and systems, both within and without the proposed district, present serious problems which should be the subject of more intensive study and consideration than it apparently has had.

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Executive Department

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I am, accordingly, filing Senate Bill No. 329 without my signature.

ROBERT B. MEYNER
GOVERNOR