

SB2184 Amendment to the Illinois Water Use Act

Ill. Sen. Susan Garrett (D – 29th District)

Illinois' water demand is on the rise.

- A 2005 study from Southern Illinois University estimated that from 2000 to 2025, Illinois' **population would increase 12 percent**, while **total water withdrawals would increase 28 percent**.
- To model water use, select effective management strategies and guarantee sufficient water for future population and economic growth, **Illinois needs current, comprehensive data on water supply and demand**.



Water use reporting in Illinois today is inadequate.

- Today, the Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) conducts the Water Inventory Program to understand better water withdrawals and intakes, use, and returns,
BUT
 - Reporting to the inventory is voluntary, so data on statewide water use is incomplete, forcing ISWS to rely on numerous assumptions.
- Today, new high-capacity wells must be registered with the appropriate county Soil and Water Conservation District for possible drought management.
BUT
 - Registration is not required in northeastern Illinois.
and
 - Users of high-volume intakes from rivers and lakes are not required to register.

**SB 2184
will ensure
comprehensive,
current,
quality data
for informed
water
supply
decisions.**

SB2184 Amendment to the Illinois Water Use Act

Ill. Sen. Susan Garrett (D – 29th District)

Illinois, unlike neighboring states, does not require water use reporting, even by high-volume users. SB2184 would amend the Illinois Water Use Act to **require reporting by all high-volume users**, in all parts of the state.

State	Reporting	For how many gallons per day (gpd)?
Illinois	Voluntary	> 100,000 gpd, except northeastern Illinois
Indiana	Mandatory	> 100,000 gpd
Iowa	Mandatory	> 25,000 gpd, excluding intake from Mississippi and Missouri Rivers
Michigan	Mandatory	> 100,000 gpd in 30-day period for public water, industrial, and power uses
Minnesota	Mandatory	> 10,000 gpd, or > 1 million gallons per year
New York	Mandatory	> 100,000 gpd, or > 2 million gallons for 30-day period, in Great Lakes Basin
Ohio	Mandatory	> 100,000 gpd
Wisconsin	Mandatory	> 100,000 gpd for public water, industrial uses

SB2184 will...

- require all high-volume users (>100,000 gpd), groundwater withdrawals and surface water intakes, to report use to the state's Water Inventory Program.
- provide high-volume agricultural irrigators with a five-year exemption from mandatory reporting, and allow aggregated reporting by ISWS-approved entities.
- eliminate the Soil and Water Conservation District registration exemption for northeastern Illinois.