

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 796

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to ensure that drinking water consumers are informed about the risks posed by arsenic in drinking water.

---

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 26, 2001

Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. REID, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. WELLSTONE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

---

## A BILL

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to ensure that drinking water consumers are informed about the risks posed by arsenic in drinking water.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Community Right-to-  
5       Know Arsenic Risk Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NOTICE CONCERNING RISKS POSED BY ARSENIC IN**  
2 **DRINKING WATER.**

3 Part F of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C.  
4 300j-21 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
5 lowing:

6 **“SEC. 1466. NOTICE CONCERNING RISKS POSED BY AR-**  
7 **SENIC IN DRINKING WATER.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—A consumer confidence report  
9 prepared by a community water system under section  
10 141.154 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or a suc-  
11 cessor regulation), shall include a short educational state-  
12 ment concerning arsenic that—

13 “(1) uses language such as the following: ‘While  
14 your drinking water meets EPA’s standard for ar-  
15 senic, it does contain arsenic. EPA’s standard is  
16 based not only on the possible health effects of ar-  
17 senic, but also on the costs of removing arsenic from  
18 drinking water. EPA continues to research the  
19 health effects of arsenic ingestion, which is a mineral  
20 known to cause cancer in humans at high concentra-  
21 tions and is linked to other health effects such as  
22 skin damage and circulatory problems.’; or

23 “(2) uses substantially similar language devel-  
24 oped by the community water system in consultation  
25 with the State agency having jurisdiction over safe  
26 drinking water matters.

1       “(b) APPLICABILITY.—Subsection (a) applies to any  
2 community water system that—

3           “(1) is required to prepare and deliver con-  
4 sumer confidence reports under subpart O of title  
5 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor reg-  
6 ulation); and

7           “(2)(A) with respect to a report required to be  
8 delivered under that subpart not later than July 1,  
9 2001, detects arsenic in the drinking water provided  
10 by the community water system at a level that is  
11 above 0.025 milligrams per liter but below the max-  
12 imum contaminant level; and

13           “(B) with respect to a report required to be de-  
14 livered under that subpart after July 1, 2001, de-  
15 tects arsenic in the drinking water provided by the  
16 community water system at a level that is above  
17 0.005 milligrams per liter but that is equal to or  
18 below the maximum contaminant level.”.

○