

## HB 2474 -- Water Quality Testing

Sponsor: Pollock

This bill requires all water quality testing for E. coli for the purposes of determining compliance with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards for full body contact recreation or testing of state park beaches to be conducted by the Department of Natural Resources. When conducting this testing, the department must test for E. coli 0157 and, if the sample exceeds 126 colonies per 100 milliliter, follow the EPA's criteria for sampling full body contact recreational waters which requires a minimum of five samples to be taken equally spaced over a 30-day period following certain specified guidelines.

If the average of the first three of five samples taken exceeds 126 colonies per 100 milliliters, the department must immediately release the sampling results to the public. If the average of the three samples does not exceed 126 colonies per 100 milliliters, the department must continue the sampling. After taking at least five samples, if the average of all samples exceeds 126 colonies per 100 milliliters, the department must immediately release the sampling results to the public.