



## **Legislation Summary:**

### **An Act protecting wastewater and sewerage systems through the labeling of non-flushable wipes**

Bill numbers: HB805/SB480

Sponsors: Rep. Sean Garballey and Sen. James Eldridge

#### **The LWVMA supports this bill.**

This bill requires manufacturers of all types of disposable wipes to label as non-flushable all wipes that do not meet performance standards for flushing; sets standards for required labeling; requires manufacturers to test products and verify that they meet performance standards; sets penalties for violations; allows Attorney General to enforce law.

Currently all types of wipes are indiscriminately flushed, whether or not they are flushable. This results in the clogging of sewer systems, fouling of sewage pumps and sewer overflows. This is already documented as costing Massachusetts sewer operators at least \$10 Million annually. The specifications on flushable were developed by The International Water Services Flushability Group (IWSFG).

The LWVMA has encouraged government to increase solid waste public education efforts and public participation activities. The League publicizes solid waste systems and lobbies for recycling and environmentally sound land disposal.

LWVMA Where We Stand, p. 32