



# Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County, TN

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** RS2024-795, **Version:** 1

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A resolution approving a Backflow Testing Agreement between the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, acting by and through the Metropolitan Department of Water and Sewerage Services, and Vanderbilt University, to permit Vanderbilt to test, maintain and to report backflow testing results for backflow devices on Vanderbilt University property.

WHEREAS, the goal of the Metro Water Services (“MWS”) water system is to supply safe water to each and every customer under all foreseeable circumstances; and,

WHEREAS, each instance where water is used improperly to create the possibility of backflow threatens the health and safety of MWS’ customers; and,

WHEREAS, a cross-connection is any connection between MWS’ water supply system and any connection to any other water supply system or device that could cause backflow, backsiphonage or provide an entry point of any material, fluid or otherwise, into MWS’ system; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to state law, MWS has developed a Cross-Control Plan (“Plan”) requiring all backflow devices to be tested annually; and,

WHEREAS, Vanderbilt University (VU”) has been testing their backflow devices and reporting the findings to MWS, consistent with MWS requirements, state and federal law; and,

WHEREAS, the provision of this Agreement is deemed to benefit both parties and the general community.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:

Section 1. That the Backflow Testing Agreement between the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, acting by and through the Metropolitan Department of Water and Sewerage Services, and Vanderbilt University, for the testing, maintenance and reporting of backflow testing results for backflow devices on Vanderbilt University property, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein, is hereby approved.

Section 2. That this resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the welfare of The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.

### Analysis

This resolution approves a backflow testing agreement between the Metropolitan Department of Water and Sewerage Services (“Metro Water”) and Vanderbilt University (“Vanderbilt”) to permit Vanderbilt to test, maintain, and report backflow testing results for backflow devices on Vanderbilt University property.

The agreement would re-establish a procedure to ensure that all backflows are tested, maintained, and repaired by Vanderbilt in accordance with the latest regulatory standards from Metro Water and the Environmental Protection Agency. Vanderbilt would agree to provide backflow protection on its campus and create a backflow testing program that would be submitted and approved by Metro Water. Any backflow

prevention assemblies would be required to be installed at a location and manner approved by Metro Water and meet or exceed Metro Water and Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation standards. Vanderbilt would also be responsible for the repair, overhaul, and replacement of any effective units with units pre-approved by Metro Water.

Vanderbilt would be responsible for inspecting and testing backflow devices annually or when required by Metro Water. All testing equipment would be required to comply with state law and Metro Water standards. Vanderbilt would agree to record and enter all backflow testing and inspection results into a database accessible to Metro Water. The Metropolitan Government would retain initial testing responsibility for all new construction backflow installations. Vanderbilt would be required to report any actual or potential cross-connections to Metro Water.

The agreement term would begin on the date that it is approved by the Metropolitan Council and filed with the Metropolitan Clerk. Metro Water could terminate the agreement upon 30 days written notice to Vanderbilt.

*Fiscal Note: There is no cost to Metro for the performance of this agreement.*