

# Outline of the Act on Coordinating the Relevant Acts to Enhance the Functionality of Government Administration Relevant to Environmental Health and Other Such Matters

## Purpose of the Amendments

These amendments transfer the authority for food sanitation standards under the Food Sanitation Act from the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare to the Prime Minister, transfer the authority under the Water Supply Act and other Acts from the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare to the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism and the Minister of the Environment, establish a new deliberative council for relevant issues, and revise the functions under the jurisdictions of various ministries and agencies, in order to help enhance the functionality of government administration relevant to environmental health and other such matters.

## Outline of the Amendments

### **1. Enhancing the functionality of the government's administration of food sanitation standards** [Food Sanitation Act]

- (i) The amendments will transfer control of the functions related to the government's administration of food sanitation standards, such as the formulation of standards for food and other products, from the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare to the Prime Minister (Consumer Affairs Agency), with the objective of implementing those functions based on scientific findings and in unity with functions relevant to the integrated coordination of the particulars involved in making comprehensive arrangements for the environment that needs to be in place in order to help ensure food safety.
- (ii) The amendments transfer control over the matters for study and deliberation by the Pharmaceutical Affairs and Food Sanitation Council that have been placed under its authority pursuant to the provisions of the Food Sanitation Act and that the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare continues to administer (administration of food sanitation inspections), to the Health Sciences Council.

### **2. Enhancing the functionality of the government's administration of water supply system development and management**

[Water Supply Act, Act on Advancement of Project for Quality Management of Raw Water, Act on National Treasury's Sharing of Expenses for Project to Recover Public Civil Engineering Works Damaged by Disaster, Act on Priority Plan for Infrastructure Development]

- (i) The amendments transfer control over water-quality and sanitation functions that are part of the government's water supply system development and management administration, such as the formulation of water quality standards for water supply system, from the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare to the Minister of the Environment, with the objective of tapping into specialized knowledge about improving and furthering public health as a matter of environmental conservation.
- (ii) From a view point of strengthening the basis of water supply system by tapping into knowledge on consistent infrastructure development, control over functions other than those set forth in (i) above that are part of the government's water supply system development and management administration will be transferred from the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare to the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, and it will become possible to delegate a part of those functions to the Directors of Regional Development Bureaus or the Director of the Hokkaido Regional Development Bureau.
- (iii) In order to strengthen disaster response and facilitate efficient and deliberate development in combination with other infrastructure, water supply system will be added as a facility or project covered by the Act on National Treasury's Sharing of Expenses for Project to Recover Public Civil Engineering Works Damaged by Disaster and the Act on Priority Plan for Infrastructure Development.

### **3. Revising the functions under the jurisdictions of various ministries and agencies** [Act Establishing the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Act Establishing the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Act Establishing the Ministry of the Environment, Act Establishing the Consumer Affairs Agency and Consumer Commission]

- (i) The necessary revisions will be made to the provisions on the administrative functions under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, the Ministry of the Environment, and the Consumer Affairs Agency, and to the provisions on the matters for study and deliberation by deliberative councils for relevant issues.
- (ii) The amendments coordinate operational rules of the Regional Development Bureaus and the Hokkaido Regional Development Bureau of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.
- (iii) A council (the Food Sanitation Standards Council) will be established in the Consumer Affairs Agency to study and deliberate on functions related to the government's administration of food sanitation standards, such as the formulation of standards for food and other products. ... and other amendments

## Effective Date

April 1, 2024

# 生活衛生等関係行政の機能強化のための関係法律の整備に関する法律の概要

## 改正の趣旨

生活衛生等関係行政の機能強化を図るため、食品衛生法による食品衛生基準に関する権限を厚生労働大臣から内閣総理大臣に、水道法等による権限を厚生労働大臣から国土交通大臣及び環境大臣に移管するとともに、関係審議会の新設及び所掌事務の見直しを行う。

## 改正の概要

### 1. 食品衛生基準行政の機能強化【食品衛生法】

- ① 食品等の規格基準の策定その他の食品衛生基準行政に関する事務について、科学的知見に基づきつつ、食品の安全性の確保を図る上で必要な環境の総合的な整備に関する事項の総合調整等に係る事務と一体的に行う観点から、厚生労働大臣から内閣総理大臣（消費者庁）に移管する。
- ② 薬事・食品衛生審議会の調査審議事項のうち、食品衛生法の規定によりその権限に属せられた事項であって厚生労働大臣が引き続き事務を行うもの（食品衛生監視行政）に関しては、厚生科学審議会に移管する。

### 2. 水道整備・管理行政の機能強化【水道法、水道原水水質保全事業の実施の促進に関する法律、公共土木施設災害復旧事業費国庫負担法、社会資本整備重点計画法】

- ① 水道に関する水質基準の策定その他の水道整備・管理行政であって水質又は衛生に関する事務について、環境の保全としての公衆衛生の向上及び増進に関する専門的な知見等を活用する観点から、厚生労働大臣から環境大臣に移管する。
- ② 水道整備・管理行政であって①に掲げる事務以外の事務について、社会資本の総合的な整備に関する知見等の活用による水道の基盤の強化等の観点から、厚生労働大臣から国土交通大臣に移管するとともに、当該事務の一部を国土交通省地方整備局長又は北海道開発局長に委任できることとする。
- ③ 災害対応の強化や他の社会資本と一体となった効率的かつ計画的な整備等を促進するため、水道を、公共土木施設災害復旧事業費国庫負担法及び社会資本整備重点計画法の対象施設に加える。

### 3. 所掌事務等の見直し【厚生労働省設置法、国土交通省設置法、環境省設置法、消費者庁及び消費者委員会設置法】

- ① 厚生労働省、国土交通省、環境省及び消費者庁の所掌事務並びに関係審議会の調査審議事項に係る規定について所要の見直しを行う。
- ② 国土交通省地方整備局及び北海道開発局の業務規定の整備を行う。
- ③ 食品等の規格基準の策定その他の食品衛生基準行政に関する事務の調査審議を行う審議会（食品衛生基準審議会）を消費者庁に設置する。

## 施行期日

令和6年4月1日