Senate Bill 2745 would require a referendum of local voters prior to Illinois American Water or Aqua Illinois acquiring a public water system.

State law now permits Illinois American and Aqua to purchase any size water system in the state. The two companies can recover 100 percent of the cost of acquisition – plus profits – from their existing ratepayers.

Since the Spring of 2018, the two companies have spent a total of $148 million of ratepayers’ dollars on system acquisitions.

When a corporation is going to be sold, their common shareholders vote on whether to accept the sale. Like corporate shareholders, municipality residents are the shareholders in their water system. They deserve to vote before their water system is auctioned off to a private company. SB 2745 would give them a voice.

Please vote “Yes!” on SB 2745.

Stock prices for the parent companies of Illinois American Water and Aqua Illinois are trading near all-time highs: