

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND ENERGY

Representative Lucy Mason, Chairman
 Representative David Stevens, Vice-Chairman
 René Guillen, Legislative Research Analyst



* Strike-Everything Amendment
 [E] Emergency Clause
 [P 105] Proposition 105 Clause
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 [LIV] Line Item Veto

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HB 2064 – Chapter 190 – biofuels conversion program

Outlines the procedure for awarding grants from the Arizona Biofuel Conversion Program fund to newly specified sites, increases the grant award threshold, extends the Program termination date to July 1, 2015.

HB 2081 – Chapter 15 – department of water resources; continuation

Extends the termination of the Arizona Department of Water Resources to July 1, 2020 and repeals the statutes related to DWR on January 1, 2021.

HB 2082 – Chapter 16 – residential utility consumer office; continuation

Extends the termination of RUCO to July 1, 2020 and repeals the statutes related to RUCO on January 1, 2021.

HB 2083 – Chapter 252 – drought emergency groundwater transfers

Allows groundwater to be transported away from a groundwater basin that is outside an active management area under specific emergency circumstances and on a temporary basis and amends SB 1141 (CAGRD revenue bonding; sustainability policies) to eliminate water from McMullen Valley as a potential source for fulfilling sustainability needs.

HB 2218 – Chapter 47 [E] – irrigation districts; contracts; certification board

An emergency measure that doubles the minimum cost that requires an irrigation district to go to bid to \$30,000. Removes the requirement that the SCB determine that an emergency exists in order for the district to do work without advertising for bids.

HB 2661 – Chapter 329 – statewide water augmentation authority; study

Creates the 15-member Water Resources Development Commission for the purpose of assessing the current and future water needs of Arizona and repeals the Commission on September 30, 2012.

SB 1141 – Chapter 300 – CAGRD revenue bonding; sustainability policies

Makes changes to statute relating to DWR's oversight of water resource management and replenishment.

- Allows a conservation district that establishes a revenue bonding program to use replenishment taxes and assessments to repay bonds.
- Prohibits monies collected for operation, maintenance and repayment obligations for the CAP from being used to make payments on revenue bonds issued for replenishment purposes.
- Increases the limit, from \$250 million to \$500 million, of the maximum aggregate outstanding principal amount of revenue bonds CAWCD may issue.
- Authorizes CAWCD to issue revenue bonds to fund the cost to acquire, lease or exchange water and to develop the infrastructure necessary for CAGRD to perform its replenishment obligations.
- Authorizes the CAWCD, beginning in 2010, to charge annual membership dues to its Member Lands (MLs) and Member Service Areas (MSAs) in order to acquire, lease or exchange water and to develop the infrastructure necessary to perform its replenishment obligations.
- Establishes a formula for allocating annual membership dues between MLs and MSAs.

- Adds CAGRDR approval as one of the conditions a ML must meet in order to obtain membership in CAGRDR.
- Prohibits CAGRDR from acquiring:
 - Groundwater, except groundwater may be taken from the Yuma, McMullen Valley, Butler Valley, and the Harquahala basins as authorized by law.
 - Surface water that has been adjudicated.
- Specifies that CAGRDR may acquire or lease CAP water.

SB 1276 – Chapter 277 – water monitoring assistance program; continuation

Extends the repeal date of the Water Monitoring Assistance Program of DEQ until December 31, 2020.

SB 1356 – Chapter 168 [E] – water bank; excess CAP water

An emergency measure that authorizes the Arizona Water Banking Authority to obtain and store excess CAP water made available by the CAWCD.

SB 1445 – Chapter 171 – groundwater transportation; Big Chino sub-basin

Makes changes to the transportation of groundwater within the Prescott AMA. Specifically, the bill:

- Stipulates that groundwater withdrawn and transported to an AMA under transportation withdrawal statutes may be transported between sub-basins of the AMA without paying damages.
- Authorizes a city or town in the Prescott AMA to withdraw and transport 8,068 acre-feet (af) of groundwater per year from the Big Chino sub-basin to the Prescott AMA if the city or town both relinquishes a supply of CAP water and enters into a federally approved settlement with an Indian tribe in the Prescott AMA.
- Provides that if a city or town delivers more than 231 af in a year to an Indian tribe in the Prescott AMA pursuant to a federally approved settlement, then the city or town may withdraw water from the Big Chino sub-basin necessary to provide the required amount.