

REFERENCE TITLE: appropriation; irrigation grandfathered rights; retirement

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-seventh Legislature
First Regular Session
2025

HB 2246

Introduced by
Representatives Mathis: De Los Santos, Villegas

AN ACT

APPROPRIATING MONIES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Appropriation; department of water resources;
3 retirement of irrigation grandfathered rights;
4 fiscal year 2025-2026; exemption

5 A. The sum of \$50,000,000 is appropriated from the long-term water
6 augmentation fund established by section 49-1302, Arizona Revised
7 Statutes, in fiscal year 2025-2026 to the department of water resources to
8 compensate irrigation grandfathered rights holders for the permanent
9 retirement or reduction of the holder's water duty.

10 B. On or before December 31, 2025, the director of the department
11 of water resources shall begin purchasing and retiring irrigation
12 grandfathered rights, including conservation agreements that result in
13 irrigation grandfathered rights holders permanently reducing their annual
14 allotments.

15 C. The appropriation made in subsection A of this section is exempt
16 from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating
17 to lapsing of appropriations.