

House Engrossed

stormwater; groundwater; recharge; urging support

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

HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 2003

A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES AND THE STATE LAND DEPARTMENT TO
INVEST IN GROUNDWATER RECHARGE INFRASTRUCTURE IN RURAL COMMUNITIES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Director of Department of Water Resources and the State Land
2 Commissioner:

3 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

4 Whereas, according to the United States Geological Survey, over 95%
5 of the rain that falls in this state evaporates from the soil or plants
6 before it has an opportunity to recharge the aquifers in this state; and

7 Whereas, throughout this state, residents face challenges with
8 groundwater and have urged the leaders of this state to take action; and

9 Whereas, from 2016 to 2021, the legislators of this state have
10 passed legislation directing the Department of Water Resources and the
11 State Land Department to identify sites for groundwater recharge
12 infrastructure. The two departments, as a result of the state
13 legislature's direction, identified over 300 sites across Arizona that
14 could be used for groundwater recharge infrastructure projects that would
15 increase the water supply across this state; and

16 Whereas, county supervisors, county flood control districts,
17 municipal water providers, water improvement districts, natural resource
18 conservation districts and other political subdivisions of this state have
19 the authority to construct infrastructure that would increase groundwater
20 recharge within each county and should explore developing stormwater
21 recharge projects within their jurisdictions to increase water supplies;
22 and

23 Whereas, in December 2023, the Water Infrastructure Finance
24 Authority approved an application by the Mohave County Flood Control
25 District for the construction of a new groundwater recharge facility in
26 Hualapai Valley that will recharge groundwater in an area where runoff
27 flows into the street system and evaporates before infiltrating the ground
28 and replenishing the groundwater; and

29 Whereas private and public parties take proactive steps to increase
30 groundwater recharge through groundwater recharge infrastructure projects.
31 Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of

32 Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

33 1. That the Department of Water Resources and State Land Department
34 focus on increasing groundwater recharge through the planning and
35 development of groundwater recharge infrastructure projects by:

36 (a) Supporting the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority and the
37 Water Supply Development Revolving Fund.

38 (b) Developing the 331 sites that were identified by the Department
39 of Water Resources and the State Land Department on state trust land for
40 groundwater recharge infrastructure projects.

41 2. That, when private and public parties take proactive steps to
42 increase groundwater recharge through groundwater recharge infrastructure
43 projects, the Department of Water Resources and State Land Department take
44 into consideration the increased groundwater supply from the projects in
45 their models and decisions regarding the future health of a basin.

1 3. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit a
2 copy of this Memorial to the Director of the Department of Water
3 Resources, the State Land Commissioner, each natural resource conservation
4 district, each county flood control district, each county board of
5 supervisors and each municipal separate storm sewer system in this state.

PASSED BY THE HOUSE FEBRUARY 18, 2025.

PASSED BY THE SENATE APRIL 15, 2025.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE APRIL 16, 2025.