



One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 483

Chairperson: Chris Langemeier
Committee: Natural Resources
Date of Hearing: January 29, 2009

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 483 provides procedures for issuing water well permits in a river basin, subbasin, or reach that had been preliminarily determined as fully appropriated, but had a final determination as not being fully appropriated.

Details

Section 1 amends §46-714, relating to stays on a fully appropriated river basin, subbasin, or reach, by adding new language providing for a water well permit process that natural resources districts are to use when a basin receives a final determination of not being fully appropriated. The procedure requires that:

- Affected natural resources districts adopt rules and regulations for the prioritization and granting of well permits for the four year period following a status change by the department of a basin's fully appropriated status;
- The rules and regulations provide that water well permits may be issued that will result in no more than 2500 irrigated acres OR result in an increase of no more than 20% of all certified irrigated acres within the district's affected areas, whichever is less, for each calendar year of the required four year period.

Further provides that a district may extend the procedure beyond the four year requirement, and defines a status change as when a preliminary or final determination that a river basin, subbasin, or reach is fully appropriated is reversed by the department and determined to not be fully appropriated.

Section 2 repeals the original section.

Section 3 inserts an emergency clause.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Chris Langemeier