



Hundredth Legislature - Second Session - 2008
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 1041

Chairperson: LeRoy Louden
Committee: Natural Resources
Date of Hearing: February 7, 2008

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

Legislative Bill 1041 would require the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to fully protect and account for water purchased or leased by the state or Natural Resources Districts as described in section 2-3226.01 for river-flow enhancement purposes, with the exception of normal carriage loss. This bill would require DNR to protect and account for this water from the point of diversion to its intended destination or use downstream.

Currently, any purchased or leased water for river-flow enhancement has historic consumption and return flows calculated upon it. Consequently, additional diversions downstream of such water are allowed to take place beyond the original and intended purposes of the delivery of such water. This reduces the amount of credit the state receives for compliance to compacts and agreements.

Therefore, LB 1041 seeks to create different guidelines for water purchased or leased for river-flow enhancement purposes that would help maximize the credit the state receives toward compliance.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Mark Christensen