



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 295

Chairperson: LeRoy Louden
Committee: Natural Resources
Date of Hearing: January 31, 2007

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

The purpose of LB 295 Corrected is to “clean up” or clarify statutory changes introduced into law during the last session, specifically LB 508 and LB 1226. None of the provisions of this bill create a fiscal impact on the state.

Examples of these changes are:

Section 1 – Adds the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to the list of certain public entities holding surface water rights subject to adjudication for non-use which qualify for particular transfer rights, or assignment, within five years after cancellation or voluntary relinquishment.

Section 2 – In order to be consistent with the definition of decommissioned wells, the change substitutes “decommissioned” for “abandoned” in this section.

Section 3 – Clarifies who is entitled to well spacing protection in the event of an erroneous well location on the permit of an earlier registered well, or an inability to accurately determine the location of nearby wells when a new well is being dug.

Section 4 – Corrects a statutory reference to the acceptable period of nonuse of a water permit.

Section 5 – Modifies the corollary wells spacing statute for adjacent municipal, industrial, or irrigation wells.

Section 6 – Adjusts the restrictions on increased irrigation in areas declared fully appropriated.

Principal Introducer:

LeRoy Louden, Chairperson
Committee on Natural Resources