



SB23-010

LONG TITLE: Concerning the water resources and agriculture review committee.

SHORT TITLE: Water Resources and Agriculture Review Committee

SPONSORS: Senators Bridges and Simpson/Representatives McLachlan and McCormick

COMMITTEES: Senate Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee

PURPOSE OF THE BILL: To enable year-round consideration and activity by the Water and Ag Resources Committee by removing limitations on meeting.

PROponents OF THE BILL: Legislators who are concerned that this committee be able to meet year-round to address water and ag needs as they arise rather than waiting until the interim.

POTENTIAL STAKEHOLDERS: Water providers, water users, local governments, DNR

Is this bill necessary this year? There is no deadline.

BACKGROUND: Interest in extending the committee arose when there appeared to be more federal money available for water and the potential for federal intervention concerning the Colorado River. In addition to allowing meetings to be spread over the year, it encourages more legislators to become familiar with water issues.

How does the bill change current law? The bill makes it a year-round committee that must meet at least four times per year. The bill also removes the limit on the number of field trips the committee may take each year.

Does the bill affect the prior appropriations system? No

How is the bill implemented? The committee will be appointed and meet as necessary, but no fewer than four times per year.

Fiscal Impact: It is assumed that the same number of activities will occur per year (although spaced out), and thus no greater impact than with the current interim committee.