
SENATE BILL 5505

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senators Morton, Rasmussen and Swecker

Read first time 01/29/97. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Environment.

1 AN ACT Relating to water supply and growth management; amending RCW
2 43.21A.064; and creating a new section.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that there is a need
5 for development of additional water resources to meet the forecasted
6 population growth in the state. It is the intent of this act to direct
7 the responsible agencies to assist growing communities as they attempt
8 to secure a safe and reliable water source for their residents. This
9 can be accomplished through the creation of municipal interties and
10 transfers, additional storage capabilities, enhanced conservation
11 efforts, and added efficiency standards for using existing supplies.

12 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.21A.064 and 1995 c 8 s 3 are each amended to read
13 as follows:

14 Subject to RCW 43.21A.068, the director of the department of
15 ecology shall have the following powers and duties:

16 (1) The supervision of public waters within the state and their
17 appropriation, diversion, and use, and of the various officers
18 connected therewith;

1 (2) Insofar as may be necessary to assure safety to life or
2 property, ~~((he))~~ the director shall inspect the construction of all
3 dams, canals, ditches, irrigation systems, hydraulic power plants, and
4 all other works, systems, and plants pertaining to the use of water,
5 and ~~((he))~~ may require such necessary changes in the construction or
6 maintenance of said works, to be made from time to time, as will
7 reasonably secure safety to life and property;

8 (3) ~~((He))~~ The director shall regulate and control the diversion of
9 water in accordance with the rights thereto;

10 (4) ~~((He))~~ The director shall determine the discharge of streams
11 and springs and other sources of water supply, and the capacities of
12 lakes and of reservoirs whose waters are being or may be utilized for
13 beneficial purposes;

14 (5) ~~((He))~~ The director shall, if a request for a water right is
15 denied, offer to assist the applicant in obtaining or developing an
16 adequate and appropriate supply of water consistent with the land use
17 permitted and the population forecast for that area provided by the
18 office of financial management under RCW 43.62.035;

19 (6) The director shall keep such records as may be necessary for
20 the recording of the financial transactions and statistical data
21 thereof, and shall procure all necessary documents, forms, and blanks.
22 ~~((He))~~ The director shall keep a seal of the office, and all
23 certificates ~~((by him))~~ covering any of ~~((his))~~ the director's acts or
24 the acts of ~~((his))~~ the director's office, or the records and files of
25 ~~((his))~~ that office, under such seal, shall be taken as evidence
26 thereof in all courts;

27 ~~((+6) He))~~ (7) The director shall render when required by the
28 governor, a full written report of the ~~((work of his office))~~ office's
29 work with such recommendations for legislation as ~~((he may))~~ the
30 director deems advisable for the better control and development of the
31 water resources of the state;

32 ~~((+7))~~ (8) The director and duly authorized deputies may
33 administer oaths;

34 ~~((+8) He))~~ (9) The director shall establish and promulgate rules
35 governing the administration of chapter 90.03 RCW;

36 ~~((+9) He))~~ (10) The director shall perform such other duties as may
37 be prescribed by law.

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