

2 ESHB 1832 - S AMD 335
3 By Senator Brown

4 WITHDRAWN 04/17/01

5 On page 34, after line 29, insert the following:

6 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 33.** The legislature declares an emergency
7 caused by a natural disaster of drought as proclaimed by the governor.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 34.** The sum of eight million dollars is
9 appropriated from the emergency reserve fund to the state conservation
10 commission for fiscal year 2001. The appropriation in this section is
11 provided solely to provide grants to conservation districts to assist
12 the agricultural community to implement water conservation measures and
13 irrigation efficiencies in the 16 water resource inventory areas
14 identified by the governor's salmon recovery office where more water
15 has been allocated that is naturally available for at least part of the
16 year and in which one or more fish stocks are listed under the federal
17 Endangered Species Act. In consultation with the department of
18 ecology, a conservation district receiving funds shall manage each
19 grant to ensure that a portion of the water saved by the water
20 conservation measure or irrigation efficiency will be placed in the
21 trust water rights program under chapter 90.38 RCW and chapter 90.42
22 RCW to enhance instream flows. The proportion of saved water placed in
23 the trust water rights program shall be equal to the percentage of the
24 public investment in the conservation measure or irrigation efficiency.
25 The percentage of the public investment may not exceed 85% of the
26 total cost of the conservation measure or irrigation efficiency. In
27 awarding grants, a conservation district shall give first priority to
28 family farms as defined under RCW 90.66.040.

29 By February 1, 2003, the commission shall submit a progress report
30 to the appropriate standing committees of the legislature on: (1) the
31 amount of public funds expended from this section; (2) the location
32 and amount of water placed in the trust water rights program pursuant
33 to this section; and (3) the methods used by conservation districts to
34 ensure a portion of the water saved by the water conservation measure
35 or irrigation efficiency actually enhanced stream flows.

1 Any monies remaining unexpended from the appropriation in this
2 section on June 30, 2001, are reappropriated for expenditure in fiscal
3 years 2002 and 2003.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 35.** The sum of seven million dollars is
5 appropriated from the emergency reserve fund to the department of
6 ecology. The appropriation in this section is provided solely to
7 purchase water rights to be placed in the trust water rights program
8 under chapter 90.38 RCW and chapter 90.42 RCW and to purchase water use
9 metering equipment and stream flow monitoring equipment. The
10 department shall allocate eighty percent of the appropriation for the
11 purchase of trust water rights. Any monies remaining unexpended from
12 the appropriation in this section on June 30, 2001, are reappropriated
13 for expenditure in fiscal years 2002 and 2003.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 36.** Six million dollars from the water quality
15 account is appropriated to the department of ecology and is provided
16 solely to eliminate, by June 30, 2006, the backlog of applications for
17 changes and transfers of existing water rights as the backlog exists on
18 June 30, 2001, including additional applications filed, as authorized
19 by section 5 of this act.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 37.** \$3,114,000 from the water quality account is
21 appropriated to the department of ecology and is provided solely to
22 support local watershed planning efforts. Of this amount: (1)
23 \$2,100,000 is provided solely to make grants to local governments for
24 targeted watershed assessments as authorized by section 2 of this act;
25 and (2) the remainder of the funding is provided for development of a
26 state environmental policy act template to streamline environmental
27 review, creation of a blue ribbon panel to develop long-term watershed
28 planning implementation funding options, and technical assistance."

29 Renumber the sections consecutively and correct any internal
30 references accordingly.

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4 Correct the title.

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EFFECT: Declares an emergency consistent with the Governor's declaration of a drought emergency. An appropriation of \$8 million is made from the emergency reserve fund to the Conservation Commission to fund grants to conservation districts to assist farmers in implementing water conservation measures and irrigation efficiencies. The saved water will be placed in the trust water rights program proportionate to the public funds invested in the water conservation measure or irrigation efficiency. First priority is given to family farms for water conservation grants. The Conservation Commission will report to the legislature on the public funds expended, the location and amount of water placed in the trust water rights program and the methods used by the conservation districts to ensure that saved water enhances instream flows. An appropriation of \$7 million is made from the emergency reserve fund to the Department of Ecology to purchase trust water rights and equipment necessary to increase water use metering and enhance stream flow monitoring. An appropriation of \$6 million from the water quality account is made to eliminate by June 30, 2006, the backlog of applications for changes and transfers of existing water rights as the backlog exists on June 30, 2001, including additional applications filed, as authorized by section 5. An appropriation of \$3,114,000 from the water quality account is made to the Department of Ecology to make grants to local governments for targeted watershed assessments as authorized by section 2, develop a state environmental policy act template to streamline environmental review, create a blue ribbon panel to develop long-term watershed planning implementation funding options, and provide technical assistance.