
HOUSE BILL 2863

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2016 Regular Session

By Representatives McCabe, Blake, Chandler, Dent, and Johnson

Read first time 01/25/16. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources.

1 AN ACT Relating to the administrative rules governing the
2 provision of emergency drought relief funds for drinking water supply
3 projects; and amending RCW 43.83B.430 and 43.83B.420.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.83B.430 and 2011 c 5 s 911 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) The state drought preparedness account is created in the
8 state treasury. All receipts from appropriated funds designated for
9 the account and funds transferred from the state emergency water
10 projects revolving account must be deposited into the account. Moneys
11 in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures
12 from the account may be used only for drought preparedness. (~~During~~
13 ~~the 2009-2011 fiscal biennium, the legislature may transfer from the~~
14 ~~state drought preparedness account to the state general fund such~~
15 ~~amounts as reflect the excess fund balance of the account.))~~

16 (2) Moneys in the state drought preparedness account must be used
17 consistent with either emergency or permanent rules adopted by the
18 department of ecology under RCW 43.83B.420.

19 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.83B.420 and 1989 c 171 s 5 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

1 (1) The department of ecology shall adopt ((such)) rules as
2 ((are)) necessary to ensure the successful implementation of this
3 chapter.

4 (2) The department of ecology must consider and make provisions
5 relating to the following when adopting either emergency or permanent
6 rules related to the provision of funds for drinking water supply
7 projects from the state drought preparedness account created in RCW
8 43.83B.430:

9 (a) The time required for a project sponsor to complete the
10 project given the unique complexity of drinking water projects when
11 considering if a project can be completed in a timely fashion,
12 including the permit requirements of both the department of ecology
13 and the department of health;

14 (b) The benefit of the project from the completion of the project
15 extending beyond the time when a drought condition order issued under
16 RCW 43.83B.405 terminates, including but not limited to the time when
17 the project sponsor's water supply is projected to return to normal,
18 nondrought conditions;

19 (c) Project benefits that provide both short-term relief from a
20 current drought and long-term solutions for preempting and managing
21 undue hardships related to future or persistent low water supply
22 events.

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