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HOUSE BILL 1582

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State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1991 Regular Session

By Representatives H. Myers, Rayburn, Peery, Ballard and Rasmussen.

Read first time February 4, 1991. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Rural Development.

1            AN ACT Relating to water rights; and adding a new section to  
2 chapter 284, Laws of 1969 ex.s. as last amended by chapter 127, Laws of  
3 1988 and to chapter 90.14 RCW.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**            A new section is added to chapter 284,  
6 Laws of 1969 ex.s. as last amended by chapter 127, Laws of 1988 and to  
7 chapter 90.14 RCW to read as follows:

8            A person may file with the department of ecology not later than  
9 August 31, 1991, a statement of claim as provided in RCW 90.14.051 (1)  
10 through (8) if said statement of claim embodies a claim of right to  
11 divert public waters with a priority date that is prior to June 6,  
12 1917, and said statement of claim is accompanied by a notarized  
13 affidavit or affidavits, relating to and supporting the rights claimed  
14 in said statement, signed by a person or persons which state that (1)

1 affiant or affiants witnessed personally a posting of a notice of  
2 intent to establish a water right at the point of diversion of such  
3 claimed right, and (2) affiant or affiants had direct knowledge of the  
4 diversion of waters, through conveyance systems, to the places of  
5 beneficial use without interruption each year for the fifty-year period  
6 immediately preceding the effective date of this act. The department  
7 is directed to accept any statement of claim which satisfies the  
8 requirements of this section and file the same in the Water Rights  
9 Claims Registry established by RCW 90.14.111. The provisions of RCW  
10 90.14.071, including those relating to waiver and relinquishment, shall  
11 have no applicability to a statement of claim filed pursuant to this  
12 section.