
HOUSE BILL 1054

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Representatives Chandler, Taylor, Nealey, Warnick, Walsh, Blake, Schmick, Klippert, Shea, Armstrong, and Hinkle

Prefiled 01/03/11. Read first time 01/10/11. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources.

1 AN ACT Relating to clarifying that water conservation practices are
2 considered a beneficial use of water for purposes of relinquishment;
3 and amending RCW 90.14.160.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 90.14.160 and 1981 c 291 s 1 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1) Any person entitled to divert or withdraw waters of the state
8 through any appropriation authorized by enactments of the legislature
9 prior to enactment of chapter 117, Laws of 1917, or by custom, or by
10 general adjudication, who abandons the same, or who voluntarily fails,
11 without sufficient cause, to beneficially use all or any part of said
12 right to divert or withdraw for any period of five successive years
13 after July 1, 1967, shall relinquish such right or portion thereof, and
14 said right or portion thereof shall revert to the state, and the waters
15 affected by said right shall become available for appropriation in
16 accordance with RCW 90.03.250.

17 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, and in addition
18 to RCW 90.14.140, water conservation practices by all water users are

1 encouraged and are considered a beneficial use of the water for
2 purposes of relinquishment.

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