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**ENGROSSED HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 4407**

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**State of Washington**

**55th Legislature**

**1997 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Clements, Chandler and Honeyford

Read first time 02/20/97. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Ecology.

1       WHEREAS, Water supplies available for various water users and uses  
2 in the lower Yakima Valley are less than water demands during critical  
3 months in water-short years yet a natural oversupply in other months  
4 causes flooding in the valley; and

5       WHEREAS, The shortage in availability is evidenced by proratable  
6 water users being delivered only a portion of their normal supply of  
7 water during the water-short years; and

8       WHEREAS, The general adjudication of water rights currently being  
9 conducted in the Yakima basin will identify who has rights to water,  
10 the amounts they are entitled to, and the order of priority of the  
11 rights, but it will not supply any additional water to the basin; and

12       WHEREAS, Finding ways to control flooding while providing  
13 additional water for irrigation, municipal and other out-of-stream  
14 uses, and for fisheries and other in-stream uses is essential to the  
15 future of the lower Yakima basin; and

16       WHEREAS, Flood control and water storage enhancements in the lower  
17 Yakima basin are means of providing these objectives;

18       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Senate of the state of  
19 Washington, the House of Representatives concurring, That a joint  
20 select committee on Yakima Valley water storage be established to  
21 examine means of increasing existing water storage in Bumping Lake and

1 of creating new water storage in Pine Hollow and other areas of Yakima  
2 county; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the joint select committee consist of  
4 eight members with four members appointed by the Speaker of the House  
5 of Representatives, two from the majority party caucus and two from the  
6 minority party caucus in the House of Representatives, and four members  
7 appointed by the President of the Senate, two from the majority party  
8 caucus and two from the minority party caucus in the Senate, and that  
9 the members of the joint select committee select cochairs of the  
10 committee, one from the House of Representatives and one from the  
11 Senate; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That staff support for the joint select  
13 committee be provided by the office of program research of the House of  
14 Representatives and Senate committee services; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the joint select committee report its  
16 recommendations to the legislature by December 1, 1997.

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