

1557-S2

Sponsor(s): House Committee on Finance (originally sponsored by Representatives Buck, Linville, Crouse, Kastama, Hankins, Grant, Lisk, Doumit, Hatfield, Johnson and Regala)

Brief Title: Exempting from taxation and valuation of property improvements used for fish and habitat restoration and protection and water quantity and quality improvement programs.

HB 1557-S2 - DIGEST

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Provides that all improvements to real and personal property that benefit fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, or water quantity are exempt from taxation if the improvements are included under a written conservation plan approved by a conservation district.

Declares that a habitat conservation plan under the terms of the federal endangered species act shall not be considered a best management practices agreement for purposes of this exemption.

Declares that the exemption shall remain in effect only if improvements identified in the written best management practices agreement are maintained as originally approved or amended. Improvements made as a requirement to mitigate for impacts to fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, or water quantity are not eligible for exemption under this act.

Declares that, for the purpose of identifying property that may qualify for the exemption provided under this act, each conservation district shall develop and maintain a list of best management practices that qualify for the exemption.