
**Agriculture & Natural Resources
Committee**

HB 3024

Brief Description: Creating a limitation on state-owned farmland in reclamation project irrigation districts.

Sponsors: Representatives Holmquist, Linville, Chandler, Grant, Orcutt, Armstrong, Schoesler, Condotta, Newhouse, Hinkle, Kristiansen and Pearson.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Limits the acreage of state lands segregated into farm units or receiving project water within an irrigation district that contracts for certain federal reclamation project waters.

Hearing Date: 2/4/04

Staff: Kenneth Hirst (786-7105).

Background:

Certain requirements of state law apply to irrigation districts that contract for water supplies from the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation's (BOR's) Columbia Basin Project and any other BOR project or division of a project undertaken after 1943. State lands within the boundaries of such a district are part of the district and the state consents to the district's assessments on the state lands. (RCW 89.12.030 and 89.12.090.)

Summary of Bill:

State lands within such a district that have been segregated into farm units or are otherwise receiving water by means of project works must not exceed the acreage held as of January 1, 2004.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on 2/2/04.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.