
HOUSE BILL 2296

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Grant, Newhouse, Linville, Dunshee, Haler and Chase; by request of Governor Gregoire

Read first time 03/21/2005. Referred to Committee on Capital Budget.

1 AN ACT Relating to funding actions taken in response to the
2 declaration of a statewide drought emergency; adding new sections to
3 2003 1st sp.s. c 25 (uncodified); adding a new section to 2003 1st
4 sp.s. c 26 (uncodified); making appropriations; and declaring an
5 emergency.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to 2003 1st sp.s. c
8 25 (uncodified) to read as follows:

9 (1) The sum of one million eight hundred thousand dollars is
10 appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, from the state
11 general fund for deposit in the state emergency water projects
12 revolving account.

13 (2) The sum of one million eight hundred thousand dollars is
14 appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, from the state
15 emergency water projects revolving account to the department of ecology
16 for the costs incurred by the department of ecology in taking action
17 pursuant to the declaration of a statewide drought emergency.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to 2003 1st sp.s. c
2 25 (uncodified) to read as follows:

3 The sum of two hundred thousand dollars is appropriated for the
4 fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, from the state general fund to the
5 department of natural resources for the costs incurred by the
6 department of natural resources to be able to activate fire fighters to
7 respond to the heightened risk of forest fires pursuant to the
8 declaration of a statewide drought emergency.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to 2003 1st sp.s. c
10 26 (uncodified) to read as follows:

11 (1)(a) The sum of eight million two hundred thousand dollars is
12 appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, from the state
13 taxable building construction account for deposit in the state drought
14 preparedness account for project number 05-4-009.

15 (b) The sum of eight million two hundred thousand dollars is
16 appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, from the state
17 drought preparedness account to the department of ecology for costs
18 incurred in responding to the state drought emergency, for project
19 number 05-4-009.

20 (2)(a) The appropriation in subsection (1)(b) of this section is
21 provided solely for response to the statewide drought that was declared
22 pursuant to chapter 43.83B RCW. The department may provide funding or
23 compensation for purchase or lease of water rights and to public bodies
24 as defined in RCW 43.83B.050 in connection with projects and measures
25 designed to alleviate drought conditions which may affect: Public
26 health and safety, drinking water supplies, agricultural activities, or
27 fish and wildlife survival.

28 (b) Projects or measures for which funding or compensation will be
29 provided must be connected with a water system, water source, or water
30 body which is receiving, or has been projected to receive, less than
31 seventy-five percent of normal water supply, as the result of natural
32 drought conditions. This reduction in water supply must be such that
33 it is causing, or will cause, undue hardship for the entities or fish
34 or wildlife depending on the water supply. General criteria for
35 guidelines to be established by the department for distribution of
36 funds must include: A balanced and equitable distribution of the funds
37 among the different sectors affected by drought, a funding process that

1 ensures funds are available for drought impacts that arise both early
2 and later during the course of the drought, and preference for projects
3 that leverage other federal and local funds.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate
5 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
6 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
7 immediately.

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