

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, ENERGY & WATER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AMENDMENTS TO H.C.R. 2012
(Reference to printed resolution)

1 Strike pages 1 and 2, insert:

2 "Whereas, Arizona has long been at the forefront among Western states
3 in developing and implementing pioneering, well-reasoned water management
4 policies; and

5 Whereas, through the efforts of many exemplary governmental, civic
6 and community leaders, Arizona has enacted numerous programs and supported
7 many projects, either through legislation or otherwise, that were designed
8 to secure Arizona's water supplies and to ensure the wise use and
9 stewardship of those supplies for the future, including:

10 1. The establishment of the Salt River Project by farmers in 1903,
11 pledging their lands as collateral to construct the Roosevelt Dam as one of
12 the nation's first Reclamation projects in 1911 and to provide a secure
13 water and electricity supply in support of expanding agricultural
14 production and a burgeoning economy.

15 2. The passage of legislation in 1971 to provide for the
16 establishment of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District to repay
17 the federal government for the Central Arizona Project. Arizona State
18 Representative Stan Turley and Arizona State Senator Ray Goetze, chairmen
19 of the House of Representatives and Senate natural resource committees,
20 respectively, participated in meetings with the federal government
21 regarding the potential structure and operation of the Central Arizona
22 Water Conservation District before enactment of this legislation.

1 3. The passage of legislation in 1980 to establish the Groundwater
2 Management Act and to create the Department of Water Resources. This
3 legislation was enacted after countless meetings and deliberations over at
4 least a three-year period.

5 4. The passage of legislation in 1986 to provide for the underground
6 storage of water for future uses, with additional provisions enacted in
7 1994.

8 5. The passage of legislation in 1993 to create the Central Arizona
9 Groundwater Replenishment District as a mechanism to provide for additional
10 water supplies.

11 6. The passage of legislation in 1996 to create the Arizona Water
12 Banking Authority to help ensure full use of Arizona's share of the
13 Colorado River.

14 7. The passage of legislation in 2012 and 2017 to authorize Arizona
15 to participate in Minutes 319 and 323 to the 1944 Treaty with Mexico
16 regarding the use of Colorado River water.

17 8. The passage of legislation in 2019 to authorize Arizona to
18 participate in the drought contingency plan among the seven basin states of
19 the Colorado River. These successful conservation efforts included the
20 participation of many parties, including representatives of tribes, cities,
21 agricultural users, nongovernmental organizations, water users on the
22 Colorado River, the United States and the State of Arizona; and

23 Whereas, due to these many proactive measures that Arizona has
24 already enacted and implemented, this state uses less water today than in
25 the 1950s, despite a population growth of nearly five hundred percent; and

26 Whereas, this state has more recently participated in and recognized
27 these additional landmarks in Arizona's water efforts:

28 1. The 2017 celebration by the Salt River Project of the one
29 hundredth anniversary of the United States Bureau of Reclamation's transfer
30 of operational control of the Salt River Reclamation Project to the Salt
31 River Valley Water Users' Association.

1 2. The 2018 celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the signing
2 of the Colorado River Basin Project Act, which authorized the construction
3 of the Central Arizona Project.

4 3. The signing of a system use agreement in 2017 between the Central
5 Arizona Water Conservation District and the United States Bureau of
6 Reclamation to allow Central Arizona Project infrastructure to be used in
7 more efficient and innovative ways, including the transport of non-Central
8 Arizona Project water through the system. These and other similar
9 innovative measures are crucial to the success of efforts to manage risks
10 from drought and shortages on the Colorado River.

11 4. The signing of the 500+ Plan in 2021 with water agencies in
12 Arizona, Nevada and California and the United States Bureau of Reclamation
13 to add five hundred thousand acre-feet of additional water to Lake Mead in
14 both 2022 and 2023 by facilitating actions to conserve water across the
15 Lower Colorado River Basin.

16 5. The protection of Lake Mead by way of voluntary and mandatory
17 conservation since 2012 to the present, during a period of drought and
18 despite the structural deficit on the Colorado River. Since 2014, Arizona
19 has engaged in conservation efforts and has participated in collaborative
20 and innovative projects that expanded conservation volumes in both Lakes
21 Powell and Mead as well as helped to develop future conservation programs.
22 These actions from Arizona alone have left more than two million eight
23 hundred thousand acre-feet of water in Lake Mead, equating to nearly forty
24 feet of increased elevation, with an additional five hundred ninety-two
25 thousand acre-feet minimum of shortage reductions and Lake Mead
26 contributions planned for 2023; and

27 Whereas, this foundation of successful water policies and water
28 management has provided a basis and a blueprint for this state to achieve
29 more with respect to Arizona's current and future water challenges,
30 including:

31 1. The renegotiation of the 2007 Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin
32 Shortages in advance of the Guidelines' expiration at the end of 2025.

1 2. The resolution of issues involving the expiration of
2 extinguishment credits in the Pinal Active Management Area.

3 3. The development of a desalination plan for brackish water as a
4 means to provide additional sources of water in this state.

5 4. The development of a fourth and fifth management plan under the
6 Groundwater Management Act for water users in the active management areas
7 of this state.

8 5. The approval for the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority to
9 administer three additional funds that total over \$1.4 billion for water
10 supply development and conservation projects.

11 6. The establishment of the on-farm irrigation efficiency pilot
12 program for providing grants and collecting data to reduce on-farm use of
13 water, including groundwater, surface water, central Arizona project water
14 and mainstream Colorado River water, to minimize or eliminate the use of
15 flood irrigation and fallowing.

16 7. The establishment of the direct potable reuse of treated
17 wastewater program."

18 Page 3, strike everything after the resolving clause and insert:

19 "That the Members of the Legislature continue this tradition of
20 leadership and support for appropriate water management practices and
21 policies that protect property and water rights and that provide for the
22 continued safety and prosperity of the State of Arizona."

23 Amend title to conform

And, as so amended, it do pass

GAIL GRIFFIN
CHAIRMAN