

REFERENCE TITLE: well drilling; groundwater basins

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-sixth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2023

## **SB 1447**

Introduced by  
Senators Sundareshan: Epstein, Fernandez, Gonzales, Mendez, Miranda,  
Terán; Representative Travers

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 45, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 10, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY  
ADDING SECTION 45-596.02; RELATING TO WELLS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 45, chapter 2, article 10, Arizona Revised  
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 45-596.02, to read:

4 45-596.02. Well drilling moratorium; upper San Pedro and  
5 Verde Valley groundwater basins; exemptions

6 BEGINNING ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, A PERSON MAY NOT  
7 CONSTRUCT AND THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT ISSUE A PERMIT OR DRILLING CARD FOR A  
8 NEW WELL IN THE UPPER SAN PEDRO GROUNDWATER BASIN OR THE VERDE VALLEY  
9 GROUNDWATER SUBBASIN EXCEPT FOR:

10 1. A REPLACEMENT WELL AS PRESCRIBED IN RULES ADOPTED BY THE  
11 DIRECTOR.

12 2. A WELL THAT THE DIRECTOR DETERMINES WILL NOT PUMP THE SUBFLOW OF  
13 A RIVER SYSTEM OR SOURCE.

14 3. A WELL THAT IS CONSTRUCTED AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE GENERAL  
15 ADJUDICATION OF WATER RIGHTS IN THE GILA RIVER.