

REFERENCE TITLE: reinstatement; WIFA monies

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-seventh Legislature
First Regular Session
2025

HCR 2016

Introduced by
Representative Griffin

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE LEGISLATURE'S COMMITMENT TO REINSTATING THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AUTHORITY'S FUNDING TO CONSERVE, REUSE AND AUGMENT ARIZONA'S WATER SUPPLY.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Whereas, pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes section 49-1205,
2 subsection A, the Legislature found: "(1) Now and into the foreseeable
3 future, that regions in this state lack access to the necessary water
4 supplies to meet their current and long-term water needs. (2) Protecting
5 current and future residents, the economy and the environment of this
6 state is best achieved through a comprehensive water strategy that
7 conserves water, improves the efficiency and reuse of existing water
8 resources and augments existing water resources with new renewable water
9 supplies of water."; and

10 Whereas, in 2022, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 1740 (Laws
11 2022, ch. 366) to expand the powers and duties of the Water Infrastructure
12 Finance Authority of Arizona (Authority) and tasked the Authority with
13 protecting current and future residents, the economy and the environment
14 of this state through a comprehensive water strategy that includes
15 conservation, reuse and augmentation; and

16 Whereas, since then, the Authority has been committed to working
17 with all Arizona water leaders and policymakers to find a secure path
18 toward accomplishing the Authority's mission and has made significant
19 tangible progress toward achieving this critical goal, including through
20 investing resources in a holistic portfolio of water supply solutions in
21 all areas of this state; and

22 Whereas, in November 2024, the Authority released a solicitation for
23 procurement through the Long-Term Water Augmentation Fund (LTWAF), seeking
24 qualified teams to present water importation projects for analysis and
25 development; and

26 Whereas, two consecutive years of funding cuts have resulted in the
27 Authority obtaining less than half of the promised appropriation for the
28 LTWAF, putting at risk the Authority's ability to attract private capital
29 and increasing the risk that the Authority will be unable to participate
30 fully in the types of projects that are capable of meeting the
31 Legislature's goals of developing or facilitating water conservation,
32 reuse and augmentation projects for the benefit of this state.

33 Therefore

34 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona,
35 the Senate concurring:

36 1. That this state is committed to investing in long-term solutions
37 to alleviate the impacts of water scarcity in urban and rural Arizona.

38 2. That the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority's mission is
39 critical to Arizona's current and future economic and environmental
40 health, and the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority's solicitation for
41 procurement is an effective way to facilitate the development of
42 sustainable, effective and responsible projects to augment this state's
43 water supply.

1 3. That the scale of infrastructure that is needed to secure new
2 water supplies will require private capital and private sector partnership
3 to be economically feasible.

4 4. That, as budgetary conditions improve, the Legislature commits
5 to working with the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority to reemphasize
6 its commitment to long-term water security and to reinstating the full
7 appropriation envisioned and needed to secure new water supplies and enter
8 strategic partnerships with the private sector.