Amendment No. 702

Assembly A	(BDR 48-425)								
Proposed by: Committee on Government Affairs									
Amendment Box:									
Resolves Conflicts with: N/A									
Amends:	Summary: No	Title: Yes	Preamble: No	Joint Sponsorship: No	Digest: Yes				

Adoption of this amendment will MAINTAIN a 2/3s majority vote requirement for final passage of SB35 (§ 2).

ASSEMBLY ACTION	Initial and Date	SENATE ACT	ION	Initial and Date
Adopted □ Lost □		Adopted □	Lost □	
Concurred In Not		Concurred In □	Not □	
Receded □ Not □		Receded □	Not □	

Amend section 1, page 1, line 7, by deleting:

"[tax of \$6] fee of \$10" and inserting:

"[tax] fee of \$6".

Amend the bill as a whole by renumbering sections 2 and 3 as sections 3 and 4 and adding a new section designated sec. 2, following section 1, to read as follows:

"Sec. 2. NRS 533.438 is hereby amended to read as follows:

533.438 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, if an appropriation of groundwater pursuant to a permit to appropriate groundwater results in the transfer to and beneficial use of water in a county in this State other than the county in which the water is appropriated or in another state, the county of origin may impose a fee of [\$6] \$10 per acre-foot per year on the transfer.

HC/EGO Date: 5/9/2005

S.B. No. 35—Revises provisions governing certain transfers of water.



- 2. A county of origin shall not impose a fee pursuant to subsection 1 without the prior approval of the State Engineer. The county of origin shall notify the State Engineer in writing of its intent to impose the fee. The State Engineer shall review the notice of intent to impose the fee to determine:
- (a) Whether the appropriation of groundwater pursuant to the permit specified in subsection 1 results in a transfer to and beneficial use of water in a county in this State other than the county of origin or in another state; and
 - (b) The amount of water, if any, that is:
 - (1) Subject to the proposed fee because of that transfer and beneficial use; or
 - (2) Not subject to the proposed fee pursuant to subsection 4.
- 3. Within 30 days after reviewing the notice of intent to impose the fee, the State Engineer shall send a written notice to the county of origin that includes the results of his review. If the State Engineer determines that the appropriation of groundwater pursuant to the permit results in a transfer to and beneficial use of water in a county in this State other than the county of origin or in another state, the State Engineer shall include in the notice the amount of water that is subject to the proposed fee. The county may, upon such a determination, impose the fee on the transfer.
- 4. A fee may not be imposed pursuant to this section on water that is appropriated and beneficially used pursuant to a permit to appropriate groundwater which is issued for a point of diversion and a place of beneficial use in the county of origin and which, after the water is diverted and beneficially used, is discharged or migrates into a county in this State other than the county of origin or into another state.

- 5. All money collected from a fee imposed pursuant to this section must be deposited in a trust fund for the county. The principal and interest of the trust fund may be used by the county only for the purposes of economic development, health care and education.
- 6. For the purposes of this section, if a basin includes land lying in more than one county, each county any part of whose land is included is a county of origin to the extent of the proportionate amount of water transferred from it. The State Engineer shall determine the respective proportions.
 - 7. As used in this section:
 - (a) A "basin" is one designated by the State Engineer for the purposes of chapter 534 of NRS.
 - (b) "Origin" means the place where water is taken from underground.".

Amend sec. 3, page 3, by deleting line 21 and inserting:

- "Sec. 4. 1. This section and sections 1 and 3 of this act become effective on July 1, 2005.
- 2. Section 2 of this act becomes effective on January 1, 2007.".

Amend the title of the bill to read as follows:

"AN ACT relating to water; redesignating the tax that a county of origin may impose for intercounty and interstate transfers of groundwater as a fee; increasing the amount of the fee; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.".

If this amendment is adopted, the Legislative

Counsel's Digest will be changed to read as follows:

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Under existing law, a county may impose an annual tax on the transfer of groundwater to another county or state.

This bill redesignates the tax as a fee. This bill also increases the amount of the fee from \$6 to \$10 per acre-foot effective January 1, 2007.