

SENATE BILL NO. 466—COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

MARCH 29, 2005

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Requires certain public bodies to make written determinations before sales or certain leases of their water rights. (BDR 20-1351)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets [omitted-material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to water; requiring certain public bodies to make written determinations before selling or leasing for a certain period their water rights; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 533 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto a new section to read as follows:

3 ***1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a public body***
4 ***shall not sell or lease for a term of more than 5 years a water right***
5 ***owned by the public body unless the public body, after holding at***
6 ***least one public hearing at which public comment was solicited,***
7 ***has issued written findings that:***

8 ***(a) The sale or lease of the water right is consistent with the***
9 ***prudent, long-term management of the water resources within the***
10 ***jurisdiction of the public body;***

11 ***(b) The sale or lease of the water right will not deprive***
12 ***residents and businesses within the jurisdiction of the public body***
13 ***of reasonable access to water resources for growth and***
14 ***development;***

15 ***(c) The sale or lease of the water right is a reasonable means***
16 ***of promoting development and use of the water right; and***



1 (d) *The means by which the water right is sold or leased*
2 *reasonably ensures that the public body will receive the actual*
3 *value of the water right or comparable economic benefits.*

4 2. *As used in this section, "public body" means the State or a*
5 *county, city, town, school district or any public agency of this State*
6 *or its political subdivisions. The term does not include a water*
7 *district organized pursuant to a special act of the Legislature or a*
8 *water authority organized as a political subdivision created by a*
9 *cooperative agreement.*

10 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

