

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 296—ASSEMBLYMEN BOBZIEN, LESLIE,
CARPENTER, CLABORN, GANSERT, GOICOECHEA, KIHUEN,
PIERCE, SETTELMAYER AND SMITH

MARCH 13, 2007

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Enacts provisions concerning the temporary
conversion of certain water rights. (BDR 48-978)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
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; expressing the sense of the Legislature
as to the policy of this State concerning the temporary
conversion of certain water rights for certain ecological
purposes; setting forth the requirements for carrying out
such a temporary conversion; and providing other matters
properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

- 1 This bill: (1) provides that it is the policy of the State of Nevada to allow the
2 temporary conversion of certain agricultural water rights for wildlife purposes or to
3 improve the quality or flow of water; and (2) sets forth the requirements for
4 carrying out such a temporary conversion.
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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. The Legislature hereby finds and declares that it is the***
4 ***policy of this State to allow the temporary conversion of***
5 ***agricultural water rights for wildlife purposes or to improve the***
6 ***quality or flow of water.***

- 7 ***2. If a person or entity proposes to temporarily convert***
8 ***agricultural water rights for wildlife purposes or to improve the***
9 ***quality or flow of water, such temporary conversion:***



(a) Must not be carried out unless the person or entity first applies for and receives from the State Engineer any necessary permits or approvals required pursuant to:

(1) The provisions of this chapter; and

(2) Any applicable decisions, orders, procedures and regulations of the State Engineer.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, must not exceed 3 years in duration. A temporary conversion of agricultural water rights for wildlife purposes or to improve the quality or flow of water may be extended in increments not to exceed 3 years in duration each, provided that the person or entity seeking the extension first applies for and receives from the State Engineer any necessary permits or approvals, as described in paragraph (a).

Sec. 2. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 3. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

