

House Engrossed

FILED

**JANICE K. BREWER
SECRETARY OF STATE**

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Forty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2006

CHAPTER 97

HOUSE BILL 2436

AN ACT

RELATING TO DROUGHT EMERGENCY GROUNDWATER TRANSFERS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Drought emergency groundwater transfer

3 A. Notwithstanding section 45-544, subsection A, paragraph 2, Arizona
4 Revised Statutes, in areas outside of active management areas, groundwater
5 may be transported away from a groundwater basin on application to and
6 approval by the director of the department of water resources. The director
7 shall post the application on the department's web site before approving the
8 application.

9 B. The director of the department of water resources shall approve a
10 request to transport groundwater away from a groundwater basin outside of an
11 active management area if the director finds that all of the following apply:

12 1. The governor has declared an emergency due to lack of precipitation
13 or a water shortage pursuant to section 35-192, Arizona Revised Statutes.

14 2. The groundwater to be transported will be withdrawn from a well
15 that is in existence as of the date of the governor's declaration of
16 emergency.

17 3. If the groundwater to be transported will be withdrawn from a well
18 within the incorporated area of a city or town, the city or town has
19 consented to the groundwater withdrawal.

20 4. If the groundwater to be transported will be withdrawn from a well
21 within the boundaries of a political subdivision, however designated,
22 established pursuant to title 48, chapter 17 or 19, Arizona Revised Statutes,
23 the political subdivision has consented to the groundwater withdrawal.

24 5. If the groundwater to be transported will be withdrawn from a well
25 within the boundaries of a county for use in another county, the county from
26 which the groundwater will be withdrawn has consented to the groundwater
27 withdrawal.

28 6. The groundwater to be transported will be transported only by motor
29 vehicle or train.

30 7. The groundwater transportation is necessary to provide water
31 supplies for domestic, stock watering or potable municipal water service
32 purposes in a location included in the emergency declaration.

33 8. The groundwater to be transported will be used only for domestic,
34 stock watering or potable municipal water service purposes.

35 9. The county, city, town or other political subdivision within which
36 the transported water is to be used has implemented an emergency conservation
37 plan sufficient to prevent nonessential use of the groundwater.

38 10. The groundwater to be transported will not be used in an active
39 management area.

40 C. If the director of the department of water resources approves the
41 request to transport groundwater away from a groundwater basin outside of an
42 active management area pursuant to subsection B of this section, the approval
43 is valid for six months, or until the director determines that the
44 groundwater transportation is no longer necessary to provide water supplies
45 for domestic, stock watering or potable municipal water service purposes in a

1 location experiencing a water shortage. On request, the director may extend
2 the approval of the groundwater transportation for one additional six-month
3 period on the expiration of the original approval period, if the director
4 determines that all of the requirements of subsection B of this section
5 continue to apply. On expiration or revocation of the approval to transport
6 groundwater, the transportation of the groundwater shall immediately cease.

7 D. The director of the department of water resources shall approve or
8 deny a request to transport groundwater away from a groundwater basin outside
9 of an active management area within thirty days of the receipt of the
10 request. Title 41; chapter 6, article 7.1, Arizona Revised Statutes, does
11 not apply to this act.

12 E. Groundwater transported away from a groundwater basin outside of an
13 active management area pursuant to this act is subject to the payment of
14 damages.

15 F. Water transported pursuant to this section shall not be transported
16 to subsidize insufficient supplies due to continued growth or deficient base
17 water supplies.

18 Sec. 2. Legislative intent

19 It is the intent of this legislature by this act to provide interim
20 water use for true emergencies.

21 Sec. 3. Retroactivity

22 Section 1 of this act is effective retroactively to April 30, 2006.

23 Sec. 4. Delayed repeal

24 Section 1 of this act is repealed on April 30, 2007.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR APRIL 11, 2006.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE APRIL 11, 2006.

