

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Dingfelder
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Avakian

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 14 – 6 – 1

House – Yeas: D. Edwards, Galizio, Nathanson, Nolan, Shields
– Nays: Garrard, Hanna, Jenson, Morgan
– Exc:

Senate – Yeas: Bates, Carter, Devlin, Gordly, Johnson, Morse, Nelson, Schrader, Westlund
– Nays: Verger, Whitsett
– Exc: Winters

Prepared By: Paul Siebert, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: 4/6/07

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Increases the amount of certain fees collected by the Water Resources Department, including application fees for permits, transfers and storage. The bill creates new fees or changes existing fees for adding additional points of diversion to an existing water right, changes in use, additional water rights, storage, or transferring water rights.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Adjusting fees to reflect the cost of processing a request
- Specific fee increase levels including those for protests
- Four positions are funded from the revenue generated in the fee adjustments

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: HB 2101 would create new fees and increase the amount of certain fees collected by the Water Resources Department. Increased transaction fees will support the Department's current level of service for water rights processing and will allow the continuation of two positions working to address the backlog of water right transfer applications. The fee levels were reviewed and approved by the Water Resources Commission. These fees were last modified in 2003, at which time the Legislature directed the Department to make more regular adjustments to its fee structures.