

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Beth Reiley, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Deems any report submitted by task force required to review structure established for water development project loans and grants submitted prior to April 1, 2015 satisfied reporting requirement and retroactively extends repeal date and ratifies and affirms task force actions since original repeal date.

Deems any report submitted by task force acting as advisory body on functional needs of watersheds for seasonally varying flows submitted prior to January 31, 2015 satisfied reporting requirement and advances repeal date to January 1, 2016.

Extends to January 1, 2016, deadline for effective date of Water Resources Commission rule establishing methodology for determining seasonally varying flows in stream of interest. Makes seasonally varying flow requirements applicable for certain projects constructed under existing permit or limited license. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: In 2013, Senate Bill 839 established a task force to study the structure established for water development project loans and grants and set the repeal date as July 1, 2015. Additionally, the 2013 law established another task force to study functional needs of watersheds for seasonally varying flows and financial feasibility of new water storage projects with a set repeal date of February 2, 2016.