



February 26, 2019
House Committee on Energy and Environment
Representative Ken Helm, Chair

Testimony on House Bill 2856
Racquel Rancier, Senior Policy Coordinator

Thank you for the opportunity to provide information related to House Bill 2856. In brief, HB 2856 would provide funding for groundwater studies.

The purpose of this testimony is to provide background information to the committee about basin studies. Please see the attached handout, "*Background information on Groundwater Basin Studies,*" for more information.

In addition, the Department was requested by Chair Helm to develop and provide information on an approach that could expedite the time it takes to complete basin studies. This approach is outlined in the second handout, "*A Systems Approach to Expediting Groundwater Basin Studies.*" This handout is provided for informational purposes.

At this time, the Department is not taking a position on the bill, or the systems approach as it pertains to the bill.