

SENATE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL 128

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

AN ACT

RELATING TO WATER; PROVIDING PROTECTION FOR WATER RIGHTS
CONSERVED AS A RESULT OF PUTTING WATER- SAVING TECHNIQUES INTO
PRACTICE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 72-5-18 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1907,
Chapter 49, Section 43, as amended) is amended to read:

"72-5-18. MAXIMUM WATER ALLOWANCE. --In the issuance of
permits to appropriate water for irrigation or in the
adjudication of the rights to the use of water for such
purposes, the amount allowed shall not be in excess of the
limits imposed by the amount of water allowed by permit or by
adjudication. The state engineer shall permit the amount
allowed to be diverted at a rate consistent with good
agricultural practices and ~~which~~ that will result in the most

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underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = del ete

1 effective use of available water in order to prevent waste.
2 Improved irrigation methods resulting in the conservation of
3 water shall not affect an owner's water rights."

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[bracketed material] = del ete