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HOUSE BILL 579

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007

INTRODUCED BY

Joseph Cervantes

AN ACT

RELATING TO WATER; AMENDING A SECTION OF THE NMSA 1978 TO
ALLOW APPOINTMENT OF A WATER MASTER ONLY UPON APPLICATION BY A
MAJORITY OF WATER USERS IN A DISTRICT.

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

Section 1. Section 72-3-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1907,
Chapter 49, Section 14, as amended) is amended to read:

"72-3-2. WATER MASTERS- - APPOINTMENT- - REMOVAL- - DUTIES. --
[~~See. 14.~~] The state engineer shall, upon the written
application of a majority of the water users of any district
in this state, appoint a water master for such district in the
state, who may, for cause, be removed by the state engineer
and shall be removed upon a petition of a majority of the
water users of [~~said~~] the district. The water master shall
have immediate charge of the apportionment of waters in [~~his~~]

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = del ete

1 the water master's district under the general supervision of
2 the state engineer, and [he] the water master shall so appro-
3 priate, regulate and control the waters of the district as
4 will prevent waste. [~~The state engineer may, if in his~~
5 ~~opinion the public safety or interests of water users in any~~
6 ~~district in the state require it, appoint such water master~~
7 ~~for temporary or permanent service in such district in the~~
8 ~~absence of the application above provided for in this~~
9 ~~article.~~] "