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HOUSE BILL 301

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011

INTRODUCED BY

Rodolpho "Rudy" S. Martinez

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE INTERSTATE STREAM COMMISSION; CREATING THE "NEW MEXICO UNIT FUND" FOR THE DEPOSIT OF FEDERAL MONEY MADE AVAILABLE TO THE INTERSTATE STREAM COMMISSION TO COMPLY WITH PROVISIONS OF THE FEDERAL ARIZONA WATER SETTLEMENTS ACT AND THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN PROJECT ACT OF 1968 AND IN REGARD TO THE CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT AND THE GILA RIVER, ITS TRIBUTARIES AND UNDERGROUND WATER SOURCES; PROVIDING THE PURPOSE FOR THE NEW MEXICO UNIT FUND; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

SECTION 1. A new section of Chapter 72, Article 14 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] NEW MEXICO UNIT FUND--PURPOSE-- APPROPRIATION.--

A. The "New Mexico unit fund" is created in the

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1 state treasury. The fund shall consist of money distributed to
2 the state pursuant to Paragraphs (2)(D)(i) and (ii) of Section
3 403(f) of the federal Colorado River Basin Project Act of 1968,
4 as amended by Section 107(a) of the federal Arizona Water
5 Settlements Act, Public Law 108-451, December 10, 2004; other
6 money made available to the fund pursuant to Section 212 of the
7 federal Arizona Water Settlements Act, Public Law 108-451,
8 December 10, 2004; appropriations; grants; and donations or
9 bequests to the fund.

10 B. Income from the fund shall be credited to the
11 fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining in the
12 fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the
13 general fund. Money in the fund shall not be transferred,
14 other than through an intra-agency transfer, to any other fund.

15 C. Money in the fund shall be administered by the
16 interstate stream commission and is appropriated to the
17 interstate stream commission for expenditure in fiscal year
18 2012 and subsequent fiscal years to comply with the provisions
19 of the federal laws cited in Subsection A of this section.
20 Those provisions of federal law establish that the purpose of
21 money in the fund is to pay the costs of construction of the
22 New Mexico unit or other water utilization alternatives to meet
23 water supply demands in the southwest water planning region of
24 New Mexico, as determined by the interstate stream commission
25 in consultation with the southwest New Mexico water study group

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1 or its successor, including costs associated with planning and
2 environmental compliance activities and environmental
3 mitigation and restoration. Money in the fund shall not be
4 expended for any purpose other than the purpose provided in
5 this section. The interstate stream commission may adopt rules
6 it deems necessary to carry out the purpose of this section.

7 D. On or before November 15 of each year, the
8 interstate stream commission shall report to the appropriate
9 legislative interim committee dealing with water and natural
10 resources and to the legislative finance committee on:

11 (1) the status of the New Mexico unit fund;

12 (2) the distribution of money from the New
13 Mexico unit fund to implement the purpose of the fund pursuant
14 to Subsection C of this section; and

15 (3) proposed uses and levels of funding
16 projected for the following fiscal year.

17 E. Expenditures from the fund shall be made on
18 warrants signed by the secretary of finance and administration
19 pursuant to vouchers signed by the director of the interstate
20 stream commission upon the delegation of authority by the
21 interstate stream commission."