

Item 7 – Legislative Update

Bills continued to be filed during the 86th Legislative Session ending Friday, March 8th. Two of the bills (HB 726 by Larson; HB 1066 by Ashby) have already been heard in the House Natural Resources Committee on March 5th. There a number of bills that have been filed which directly affect the District. Most notably are:

HB 2122 by Harris – Use of CCN by public water suppliers (must control water rights)

SB 2026 by Perry – Identical to HB 2122

HB 2123 by Harris – Petitioning the District for rule making

HB 2125 by Burns – Awarding of Attorney Fees in suits (Award capped at \$100,000)

HB 2249 by Lucio – Use of CCN by public water suppliers (no control of water rights)

HB 3998 by Wilson – Transferring regulation of groundwater to the TWDB

HB 4570 by Larson – Establishing a groundwater/surface water advisory committee

SB 851 by Perry – Awarding of Attorney Fees in suits (Award capped at \$250,000)

SB 1010 by Perry – Adopting Rules Similar to Rules of Other Districts in the GMA

SB 2027 by Perry – Standard of judicial review for groundwater de novo

Each of these bills will discussed at length during the March 14th board meeting to determine positions on the bills.