

MINUTES OF THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Larry Powell at 8:30am on Thursday, February 11, 2016, 159-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:  
Senator Carolyn McGinn – Excused

Committee staff present:  
Tamera Lawrence, Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Heather O'Hara, Legislative Research Department  
Toni Beck, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant  
Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department

Conferees appearing before the Committee:  
No conferees present

Others in attendance:  
[See Attached List](#)

**SB329 — Clarifying approval of a change application for place of use for multi-year flex accounts.**

Chairman Powell turned the committee's attention to **SB329-Clarifying approval of a change application for place of use for multi-year flex accounts**. Tamera Lawrence presented an overview.

*Senator Francisco moved, Senator Kerschen seconded, the balloon amendment changing "right to suspend water rights in continued non-compliance". Motion adopted. Senator Arpke moved, Senator Hawk seconded, **SB329** as amended be recommended favorably for passage. Motion adopted. ([Attachment 1](#)) ([Attachment 2](#))*

**SB337 — Creating a penalty for failure to report annual water use.**

Chairman Powell turned the committee's attention to **SB337-Creating a penalty for failure to report annual water use**. Tamera Lawrence presented an overview.

Susan Metzger, Department of Agriculture mentioned less than 12 users fail to submit the required water usage report. There is not a current penalty for continual offenders of non-filing water reports. The hardship on this issue falls on the neighbors in the usage area.

*Senator Pyle presented a balloon amendment for "two or more consecutive calendar years; civil penalty of \$1,000". Senator Pyle moved, Senator Tyson seconded, the balloon amendment on **SB337** be recommended favorably for passage. Motion adopted. ([Attachment 3](#))*

*Senator Hawk moved, Senator Francisco seconded, a conceptual amendment for **SB337** for "part of*

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Natural Resources at 8:30am on Thursday, February 11, 2016 in Room 159-S of the Capitol.

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and supplemental to Water Appropriation Act". Motion adopted.

Senator Francisco moved, Senator Kerschen seconded, **SB337** as amended be recommended favorably for passage. Motion adopted.

Concerns were expressed over tightening the statutes as opposed to control through Rules and Regulations. It was an issue that fines could be levied to water users who unintentionally forgot to file the water report, versus users that continually refused to file under the directions of the Department of Agriculture.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

The next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, February 17.