

**TASK FORCE STUDYING WATER ISSUES**

2004 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Sponsor: Michael R. Styler**

James R. Gowans

David Ure

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill creates the Water Issues Task Force and provides for task force membership, purposes, and compensation.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ creates the Water Issues Task Force;
- ▶ provides for membership of the task force and compensation for members;
- ▶ specifies duties and responsibilities of the task force; and
- ▶ specifies issues that the task force will review.

**Monies Appropriated in this Bill:**

This bill appropriates:

- ▶ \$197,000 from the General Fund for fiscal year 2003-04 for a two-year task force.

**Other Special Clauses:**

This bill is repealed November 30, 2005.

**Uncodified Material Affected:**

ENACTS UNCODIFIED MATERIAL

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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. **Water Issues Task Force -- Creation -- Membership -- Interim rules followed -- Compensation -- Staff.**

(1) There is created the Water Issues Task Force consisting of the following members:

(a) five members of the Senate appointed by the president of the Senate, no more than

four of whom may be from the same political party; and

(b) eight members of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, no more than six of whom may be from the same political party.

(2) (a) The president of the Senate shall designate a member of the Senate appointed under Subsection (1)(a) as a cochair of the task force.

(b) The speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate a member of the House of Representatives appointed under Subsection (1)(b) as a cochair of the task force.

(3) In conducting its business, the task force shall comply with the rules of legislative interim committees.

(4) Salaries and expenses of the members of the task force shall be paid in accordance with Section 36-2-2 and Legislative Joint Rule 15.03.

(5) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall provide staff support to the task force.

**Section 2. Duties -- Interim report.**

(1) The task force shall review and make recommendations on the following issues:

(a) ground water management;

(b) water right enforcement and penalties;

(c) title for water rights;

(d) administration of ground water and surface water;

(e) instream flow; and

(f) water conservation and reuse, including the recycling of treated municipal effluent.

(2) A final report, including any proposed legislation, shall be presented before November 30, 2005, to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee.

**Section 3. Appropriation.**

There is appropriated from the General Fund for fiscal year 2003-04, to pay for the two-year task force studying water issues:

(1) \$18,000 to the Senate to pay for the compensation and expenses of senators on the task force;

(2) \$29,000 to the House of Representatives to pay for the compensation and expenses of representatives on the task force; and

(3) \$150,000 to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel to pay for staffing the task force.

**Section 4. Repeal date.**

This bill is repealed November 30, 2005.