

Second Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 22-0337.01 Richard Sweetman x4333

HOUSE BILL 22-1092

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Soper and Roberts,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Bridges and Coram,

House Committees

Agriculture, Livestock, & Water

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE ISSUANCE OF LOANS BY IRRIGATION DISTRICTS TO
102 LANDOWNERS FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

Section 1 of the bill allows a board of directors of an irrigation district (board) to borrow money, which the irrigation district may use to make loans to landowners to be used to make improvements to private water delivery systems or for other types of projects that improve:

- Water conservation or efficiencies on landowner property;
- or

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

- Landowner delivery or drainage systems.

An obligation or contract to borrow such money is exempt from the existing requirement that a contract purporting to bind the district to pay any sum in excess of \$500,000 must be ratified by a majority of all the votes cast at a general or special election. Additionally, the district cannot assess landowners to raise money to fund the loans.

A board may adopt rules concerning the issuance of loans to landowners.

Section 2 requires each irrigation district to include in its annual appropriation resolution all amounts payable by landowners to the irrigation district in accordance with loans issued to the landowners and indicate the amount payable by each tract within the irrigation district for which a landowner has received a loan.

Section 3 requires a county assessor, in assessing land within an irrigation district, to:

- Apply the information provided in the irrigation district's annual appropriation resolution concerning loans issued to landowners; and
- Assess the additional amount payable for each tract for which the landowner has received a loan.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 37-42-113, **add** (5)
3 as follows:

4 **37-42-113. Powers of district - loans for improvements.**

5 (5) (a) THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MAY ENTER INTO ANY OBLIGATION OR
6 CONTRACT TO BORROW MONEY, WHICH THE IRRIGATION DISTRICT MAY USE
7 TO ISSUE LOANS TO LANDOWNERS:

8 (I) TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO PRIVATE WATER DELIVERY
9 SYSTEMS; OR

10 (II) FOR OTHER TYPES OF PROJECTS THAT IMPROVE:

11 (A) WATER CONSERVATION OR EFFICIENCIES ON LANDOWNER
12 PROPERTY; OR

13 (B) LANDOWNER DELIVERY OR DRAINAGE SYSTEMS.

14 (b) AN OBLIGATION OR CONTRACT TO BORROW MONEY DESCRIBED

1 IN SUBSECTION (5)(a) OF THIS SECTION IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE
2 REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (1)(c) OF THIS SECTION.

3 (c) THE BOARD SHALL NOT ASSESS DISTRICT LAND IN ORDER TO
4 RAISE MONEY TO ISSUE LOANS PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (5).
5 HOWEVER, THE BOARD, IN ITS DISCRETION, MAY USE OTHER SOURCES OF
6 MONEY FOR THE PURPOSE OF ISSUING LOANS AS DESCRIBED IN THIS
7 SUBSECTION (5).

8 (d) THE BOARD MAY ADOPT RULES CONCERNING THE ISSUANCE OF
9 LOANS TO LANDOWNERS PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (5).

10 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 37-42-125, **add** (3)
11 as follows:

12 **37-42-125. Fiscal year - appropriation resolution.** (3) THE
13 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF
14 THIS SECTION MUST INCLUDE THE AMOUNT OF MONEY NEEDED TO MEET
15 LOAN OBLIGATIONS AND ALL AMOUNTS PAYABLE BY LANDOWNERS TO THE
16 IRRIGATION DISTRICT IN ACCORDANCE WITH LOANS ISSUED TO THE
17 LANDOWNERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 37-42-113 (5) AND SHALL INDICATE
18 THE AMOUNT PAYABLE BY EACH TRACT WITHIN THE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
19 FOR WHICH A LANDOWNER HAS RECEIVED A LOAN.

20 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 37-42-126, **add** (4)
21 as follows:

22 **37-42-126. Assessment of lands - valuation.** (4) IN ASSESSING
23 LAND WITHIN AN IRRIGATION DISTRICT, THE COUNTY ASSESSOR SHALL:

24 (a) APPLY THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THE IRRIGATION
25 DISTRICT'S ANNUAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION CONCERNING LOANS
26 ISSUED TO LANDOWNERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 37-42-113 (5), AS
27 DESCRIBED IN SECTION 37-42-125 (3); AND

1 (b) ASSESS THE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT PAYABLE FOR EACH TRACT
2 FOR WHICH THE LANDOWNER HAS RECEIVED A LOAN.

3 **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
4 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
5 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
6 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
7 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
8 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
9 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
10 November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
11 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.