

**BILL SUMMARY**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 60<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>HB4459</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>POLREC-AMD1</b>
<b>Request Number:</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Rep. Newton</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>3/3/2026</b>
<b>Impact:</b>	<b>No Impact</b>

**Research Analysis**

The policy committee recommendation for HB 4459 previously allowed a five-year permit holder to exceed their annual water allotment by up to 200 percent in a single year. The amendment to the committee recommendation reduces that threshold to 150 percent and provides that usage greater than 150 percent in any one year shall be considered waste.

The amendment also clarifies that the groundwater measurement cost share program created by irrigation districts and conservation districts is voluntary.

Prepared By: Emily Byrne

**Fiscal Analysis**

The amendment to the policy committee recommendation to HB 4459 clarifies that those subject to water monitoring would be on a voluntary basis. Upon review, this amendment has no impact on the current fiscal analysis for this measure.

Prepared By: Jay St Clair, House Fiscal Staff

**Other Considerations**

None.