

1909

Appropriating the Sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) to Pay the Expenses of an Investigation of the Rio Grande River with Reference to the Effect of the Diversion and Use of its Waters in Colorado and to Obtain Data Necessary to Prove the Impracticality and Injustice of the Prohibition, by the Federal Government, Now Existing Against the Construction of Canals and Reservoirs in Colorado.

Colorado General Assembly

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CHAPTER 89.

APPROPRIATION.

RIO GRANDE RIVER—INVESTIGATION.

(H. B. No. 528, by Mr. Wheeler.)

AN ACT

APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$15,000.00) TO PAY THE EXPENSES OF AN INVESTIGATION OF THE RIO GRANDE RIVER WITH REFERENCE TO THE EFFECT OF THE DIVERSION AND USE OF ITS WATERS IN COLORADO AND TO OBTAIN DATA NECESSARY TO PROVE THE IMPRACTICABILITY AND INJUSTICE OF THE PROHIBITION, BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, NOW EXISTING AGAINST THE CONSTRUCTION OF CANALS AND RESERVOIRS IN COLORADO.

Reasons for
passage of
this act.

Whereas, The Secretary of the Department of the Interior, of the United States, refuses to grant a right of way across public lands for canals and reservoir systems in the San Luis Valley, and upon the Rio Grande river and its tributaries in the State of Colorado, on the theory that the construction of such systems and the use of water for irrigation that would result therefrom would injuriously effect the storage of water in a reservoir which it is proposed shall be built by the United States Reclamation Service near Engle, New Mexico, for the irrigation of private lands in the Territory of New Mexico, the State of Texas, and the Republic of Mexico.

And, Whereas, Such action by the Secretary of the Interior prevents and will prevent the full development of the agricultural lands of this State to the great and permanent injury of the State.

And Whereas, Detailed information regarding available supply and practical use of the water of the

Rio Grande river in Colorado and northern New Mexico will demonstrate that waters should be used where they can be used to the best advantage.

And Whereas, It is the opinion of those best qualified to judge that the greatest economy and most beneficial use requires that the waters be used as high on the stream as possible, that is to say, in the State of Colorado.

Therefore,

Be it Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

Section 1. The sum of \$15,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the State treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of obtaining a complete report of the water supply and the effect of the use of the water of the Rio Grande river.

Appropriation.
Report of water supply and effect of use of water of Rio Grande river.

Section 2. The State engineer shall supervise said investigation and keep a record thereof in his office.

State Engineer to supervise investigation.

Section 3. The Auditor of the State of Colorado, shall upon presentation to him of bill or bills or vouchers duly approved in writing by the Governor, draw his warrant for the payment of the amount herein appropriated, or so much thereof as vouchers approved as aforesaid shall be presented to him.

Auditor to draw warrant.

Section 4. In the opinion of the General Assembly an emergency exists, therefore, this act shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

Emergency.

APPROVED May 5th 1909.