



AN ACT PROVIDING LEGISLATIVE INTENT REGARDING STREAMFLOW INFORMATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Intent. (1) The 2015 state water plan recognizes that improving Montana's water supply and distribution monitoring network improves the ability of water managers and water users to adjust to seasonal supply and demand imbalances as well as plan for longer-term imbalances associated with climate variability.

(2) It is the intent of the legislature to support local, state, and federal efforts and programs to collect and distribute timely and accurate information on Montana streamflows.

(3) The legislature recognizes that streamflow information is collected by numerous state and federal agencies and tribes to meet their statutory responsibilities.

(4) The legislature recognizes that streamflow information collected by state, tribal, and federal entities is critical to the administration of the Montana Water Use Act, distribution of water by decree, water supply planning for municipalities, and implementation of plans and agreements that address irrigation and agricultural uses and locally developed drought, fish habitat, or water supply objectives.

(5) The legislature recognizes it is in the public interest to support and encourage coordination in the collection and distribution of streamflow information.

Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 85, chapter 2, part 1, and the provisions of Title 85, chapter 2, part 1, apply to [section 1].

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,
SB 55, originated in the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate

President of the Senate

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2025.

Speaker of the House

Signed this _____ day
of _____, 2025.

SENATE BILL NO. 55

INTRODUCED BY W. CURDY, B. BEARD, L. BENNETT, M. BERTOGLIO

BY REQUEST OF THE WATER POLICY INTERIM COMMITTEE

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