AN ACT relating to water; requiring the Legislative Committee on Public Lands to conduct a study concerning water conservation and alternative sources of water for Nevada communities; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Under existing law, the Legislative Committee on Public Lands is authorized to review and comment on the laws, regulations and policies relating to the use, allocation and management of water in this State. (NRS 218E.525) This bill requires the Committee to conduct a study concerning water conservation and alternative sources of water for Nevada communities and to submit a report of its findings and any recommendations for legislation to the 79th Session of the Nevada Legislature.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. 1. The Legislative Committee on Public Lands shall conduct a study during the 2015-2016 interim concerning
water conservation and alternative sources of water for Nevada communities. The study must include, without limitation, a comprehensive review of all of the following:

(a) Issues relating to water resources in this State;
(b) Studies quantifying water use, surface water resources and groundwater resources, including, without limitation, increased water supply through conservation;
(c) The total consumptive use of water in this State, calculated on the basis of gallons per capita per day;
(d) Alternative sources of water, including, without limitation, desalination of water, interbasin transfers of groundwater, conservation of water used for agricultural purposes, water conservation in urban areas and cloud seeding, and the reuse of water, including, without limitation, reclaiming wastewater, using graywater and capturing rainwater; and
(e) Efforts that may be taken by the State of Nevada to ensure the equitable apportionment of groundwater in basins that have boundaries which extend outside the borders of the State of Nevada.

2. In addition to any report required by NRS 218E.525, the Committee shall, on or before February 1, 2017, submit a report of its findings and any recommendations for legislation to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the 79th Session of the Nevada Legislature.