



Nevada Farm Bureau Federation

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Nevada Farm Bureau Statement To Assembly Natural Resources Committee Regarding AB 419 April 9th, 2025

For the record, I'm Doug Busselman, Executive Vice President of Nevada Farm Bureau.

We are taking a neutral position today on AB 419.

We see that change needs to happen with how outcomes take place within the Division of Water Resources, and we are interested in being part of necessary, long-term stakeholder engagement to work through the effort for positive change. We thank Assemblyman DeLong and the co-sponsors who brought AB 419 forward to begin these essential conversations.

As we reviewed our organization's policy with respect to AB 419, there were many aspects of the proposal that we simply don't have policy positions which give us direction in support or opposition.

We have clear policy urging that the Nevada State Engineer and the staff of the Division of Water Resources to make every effort to expedite processing of agricultural water use permit applications in a timely fashion. The proposed pre-application process for water right applications might clarify a process with timelines that could establish a clear and more efficient process, but we just don't know whether that would happen or not.

We also have policy pertaining to temporary permits, but it is uncertain that what we're seeking, based on our policy, would fit with what could take place in this bill.

We would like to see further development of ideas and greater discussions with stakeholders and the Division of Water Resources on how to make the necessary changes that have been prompted by AB 419 to be brought forward.