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HOUSE BILL 576

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

INTRODUCED BY

Richard D. Vigil

AN ACT

**RELATING TO WATER RIGHTS; PROVIDING FOR FORFEITURE EXEMPTIONS
OF WATER RIGHTS OWNED BY AN ACEQUIA OR COMMUNITY DITCH
ASSOCIATION.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**Section 1. Section 73-2-22.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1987,
Chapter 352, Section 1) is amended to read:**

**"73-2-22.1. ACEQUIA AND COMMUNITY DITCH ASSOCIATIONS--
ADDITIONAL POWERS--WATER RIGHTS ACQUISITION--NONFORFEITURE. --**

**A. [~~Any~~] An acequia or community ditch association
has the power to acquire and hold property and water rights
and transfer and use the property and water rights so acquired
pursuant to law.**

**B. The rights of an acequia or community ditch
association to the waters of the acequia or association or**

underscored material = new
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1 their use or the lands and property owned by the acequia or
2 association shall not be lost by the acequia or community
3 ditch association by prescription or adverse possession or for
4 nonuse of waters [~~except as provided in Section 72-5-28 NMSA~~
5 ~~1978~~]. "

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