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HOUSE BILL 215

**44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION,
2000**

INTRODUCED BY
Stevan Pearce

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS; ALLOWING COMPENSATION FOR WATERSHED
IMPROVEMENTS ON PUBLIC LANDS.

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

Section 1. Section 19-7-15 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1963,
Chapter 237, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

"19-7-15. DEFINITION OF IMPROVEMENTS.--The word
"improvements", ~~herein~~ as used in Sections 19-7-14 through
19-7-18 NMSA 1978, shall include appurtenant water rights,
watershed improvements and all improvements placed upon the
land in compliance with Section ~~[7-8-53 NMSA 1953]~~ 19-7-51
NMSA 1978 and shall include those appurtenant water rights
and improvements placed upon the land prior to March 1, 1955,
whether or not the value ~~be~~ is in excess of the amount
prescribed by Section ~~[7-8-53 NMSA 1953]~~ 19-7-51 NMSA 1978.
Appurtenant water rights and improvements placed upon the

.130456.1

underscored material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

underscored material = new
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1 land after March 1, 1955 but prior to March 1, 1975 may be
2 included by the commissioner in accordance with rules and
3 regulations adopted by the commissioner."

4 Section 2. Section 19-7-51 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1912,
5 Chapter 82, Section 22, as amended) is amended to read:

6 "19-7-51. IMPROVEMENTS ON GRAZING OR AGRICULTURAL
7 LEASE--VALUE--LIMITATION--FIXTURES.--

8 A. [~~Sec. 22.~~] Except by the express written
9 consent of the commissioner, improvements upon leased state
10 lands held under one lease shall be limited as follows:

11 (1) upon those leased for grazing purposes,
12 fences [~~only~~] at a cost not exceeding one hundred [~~and~~] fifty
13 dollars [~~(\$150.00)~~] (\$150) per mile and necessary corrals at
14 a cost not exceeding two hundred dollars [~~(\$200.00)~~] (\$200);

15 (2) upon those leased for agricultural
16 purposes, fences at a cost not exceeding one hundred [~~and~~]
17 fifty dollars [~~(\$150.00)~~] (\$150) per mile for exterior
18 boundaries and seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per mile for
19 inside cross-fences;

20 (3) barns, dwellings and all other buildings
21 at a total cost not exceeding six hundred dollars [~~(\$600.00)~~]
22 (\$600);

23 (4) wells and irrigation systems at a total
24 cost not exceeding one thousand dollars [~~(\$1000.00)~~]
25 (\$1,000); [~~and~~]

(5) for improvements to the land such as
orchards, plowed land and crops, [~~etc. the amount allowed~~]

underscored material = new
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~~shall be only~~] the amount added to the natural value of the land by such improvement, but in no case to exceed a total of ten dollars (\$10.00) per acre for lands actually so improved; and

(6) for watershed improvements, the cost of those improvements.

B. For the purposes of [~~this~~] Chapter 19 NMSA 1978, fences and growing crops shall be considered as movable improvements and all other improvements as permanent improvements."