

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AMENDMENT

Committee on Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources.

HB25-1113 be amended as follows:

1 Amend printed bill, page 2, after line 1 insert:

2 "SECTION 1. Legislative declaration. (1) The general
3 assembly finds that:

4 (a) As Colorado continues to grapple with the impacts of climate
5 change, green urban spaces, such as urban tree canopies, are a vital
6 adaptation tool for mitigating the impacts of climate change, especially
7 for mitigating the urban heat island effect, which can increase energy
8 costs, air pollution, and heat-related illnesses and deaths;

9 (b) However, water supply in the western United States is
10 increasingly scarce due to climate change and increasing demand;

11 (c) Many communities in the state overuse nonnative grass for
12 landscaping purposes, which requires large amounts of water to maintain;

13 (d) While there are appropriate and important uses for turf,
14 including for civic, community, or recreational purposes such as use in
15 parks, sports fields, and playgrounds, much of the turf in the state is
16 nonfunctional, located in areas that receive little, if any, use, and could be
17 replaced with landscaping that adheres to water-wise landscaping
18 principles without adversely impacting quality of life or landscape
19 functionality;

20 (e) Prohibiting the installation, planting, or placement of
21 nonfunctional turf in multifamily property in the state can help conserve
22 the state's water resources;

23 (f) Requiring local governments to regulate turf in new residential
24 properties can help preserve the limited water in our state;

25 (g) Many communities and developments develop in a water-wise
26 manner already and are appreciated; and

27 (h) Installed vegetation that adheres to water-wise landscaping
28 principles can help reduce outdoor demand for water while avoiding heat
29 islands.

30 (2) The general assembly therefore declares that preventing the
31 installation, planting, or placement of nonfunctional turf, artificial turf,
32 and invasive plant species in applicable property in the state is:

33 (a) A matter of statewide concern; and

34 (b) In the public interest."

35 Renumber succeeding sections accordingly.

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