Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources.

After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:

HB21-1242 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee on Appropriations with favorable recommendation:

Amend reengrossed bill, page 2, line 5, strike "cash fund -".

Page 2, after line 7 insert:

"(I) SEVERE DROUGHTS, AS WELL AS UNADDRESSED WATER DEMANDS ASSOCIATED WITH URBAN GROWTH, WILL ADD PRESSURE TO COLORADO'S ALREADY STRAINED WATER SUPPLY IN ALL OF COLORADO'S WATERSHEDS;".

Renumber succeeding subparagraphs accordingly.

Page 2, line 14, strike "ECOSYSTEMS;" and substitute "ECOSYSTEMS BUT THEY CANNOT SHOULDER THE BURDEN OF WATER SCARCITY WITHOUT ADDRESSING WATER-SAVING MEASURES BEING IMPLEMENTED AND SUSTAINED IN URBAN AREAS;".

Page 2, line 16, strike "RESILIENCY" and substitute "RESILIENCY, CONSERVE OUR WATER SUPPLIES, PROVIDE AN ECONOMIC BASE FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES;".

Page 3, line 2, strike "PROGRAMS;" and substitute "PROGRAMS WITHOUT NEGLIVELY IMPACTING THE OVERALL RURAL ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS AND RURAL COMMUNITIES;".
Page 3, line 15, after the first period insert "THE OFFICE SHALL ADVISE THE COMMISSIONER, THE COLORADO AGRICULTURAL VALUE-ADDED DEVELOPMENT BOARD CREATED IN SECTION 35-75-203, OTHER STATE AGENCIES, AND THE GOVERNOR ON THE IMPACT TO AGRICULTURE OF DROUGHT AND CLIMATE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS.".

Page 3, line 23, strike "COLORADO." and substitute "COLORADO AND MEMBERS OF THE COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD CREATED IN SECTION 37-60-102.".

Page 5, strike lines 5 through 27.

Page 6, strike lines 1 through 8.

Page 6, after line 8 insert:

"SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 35-75-204, amend (1) as follows:

35-75-204. Duties of board - agriculture value-added grants, loans and loan guarantees, and equity investments. (1) The board has the power to make grants, loans and loan guarantees, and equity investments to any person, including eligible agricultural value-added cooperatives, as defined in section 35-75-202 (4), for new or ongoing agricultural projects and research that add value to Colorado agricultural products and aid the economy of rural Colorado communities AND FOR AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS THAT WILL REDUCE ENERGY COSTS FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS OR BUSINESSES. The board also has the power to fund market promotion activities of the department pursuant to section 35-75-205 (2)(f)."

Renumber succeeding sections accordingly.

Page 6 line 19, strike "DROUGHT AND CLIMATE RESILIENCY CASH" and substitute "VALUE-ADDED CASH".

Page 6, line 20, strike "35-1-114." and substitute "35-75-205 (1).".

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