SENATE BILL NO. 432

INTRODUCED BY BENGTSON

IN THE SENATE

	IN THE SENATE
FEBRUARY 15, 1989	INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK & IRRIGATION.
	FIRST READING.
FEBRUARY 16, 1989	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL DO PASS AS AMENDED. REPORT ADOPTED.
FEBRUARY 17, 1989	PRINTING REPORT.
FEBRUARY 18, 1989	SECOND READING, DO PASS.
FEBRUARY 20, 1989	ENGROSSING REPORT.
FEBRUARY 21, 1989	THIRD READING, PASSED. AYES, 50; NOES, 0.
	TRANSMITTED TO HOUSE.
	IN THE HOUSE
FEBRUARY 21, 1989	INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK & IRRIGATION.
FEBRUARY 28, 1989	FIRST READING.
MARCH 22, 1989	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED. REPORT ADOPTED.
MARCH 28, 1989	SECOND READING, CONCURRED IN.
MARCH 29, 1989	THIRD READING, CONCURRED IN. AYES, 87; NOES, 10.
	RETURNED TO SENATE WITH AMENDMENTS.

IN THE SENATE

RECEIVED FROM HOUSE.

APRIL 4, 1989

SECOND READING, AMENDMENTS CONCURRED IN.

APRIL 6, 1989

THIRD READING, AMENDMENTS CONCURRED IN.

SENT TO ENROLLING.

REPORTED CORRECTLY ENROLLED.

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1 2	INTRODUCED BY Bengleon	BILL NO.	43.	<u> </u>	
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4	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLE	D: "AN	ACT	MAKING	TECH
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NICAL CHANGES TO THE IRRIGATION DISTRICT LAWS: MODIFYING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMISSIONERS OF IRRIGATION DISTRICTS AND THE PROCESS FOR APPOINTING A COMMISSIONER TO FILL A VACANCY ON THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS; CLARIFYING THE QUALIFICATIONS OF ELECTORS: ALLOWING A COUNTY TREASURER ASSISTANCE FROM AN IRRIGATION DISTRICT EMPLOYEE OR COMMISSIONER FOR CERTAIN DISTRICT-RELATED TAX FUNCTIONS: AND AMENDING SECTIONS 85-7-1501, 85-7-1703, 85-7-1710, AND 85-7-2136, MCA. "

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 85-7-1501, MCA, is amended to read: *85-7-1501. Qualifications of commissioners and term of office. (1) No A person may not be a commissioner unless he is an owner of irrigated land within the-district and is a resident of the county--in--which--the division of the district or-some-portion-thereof, for which the commissioner is to be elected, -is-situated.

(2) The commissioners appointed shall hold their respective offices until the second Saturday in December following their appointment and until their respective

successors are elected and qualified. Each of the commissioners shall qualify in the same manner as justices 2 3 of the peace. The bond for a commissioner shall must be approved by the district court or judge thereof of the 5 district court and filed in the office of the clerk of the court." 6

Section 2. Section 85-7-1703, MCA, is amended to read: "85-7-1703. Vacancies among commissioners. In case of a vacancy in the board of commissioners, from any cause, such the vacancy shall must be filled until the next regular or special election by appointment by the board. The remaining commissioners shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of filling any vacancy. If a vacancy exists for every position on the board, the judge of the district court of the county in which the division or major portion thereof of the division is situated shall make the appointments. The appointee shall must be an owner of irrigated land within the division of the district, shall and must be a resident of the county-in-which-the division of the district for-some portion-of-the-division for which such the commissioner is so elected; --is--situated; and shall hold office until his successor is elected and qualified."

23 Section 3. Section 85-7-1710, MCA, is amended to read: 24 "85-7-1710. Qualification of electors and nature of 25 voting rights. (1) At all elections held under the



INTRODUCED BILL 5B432

provisions of this part, except as otherwise expressly provided, the following holders of title or evidence of title to <u>irrigated</u> lands within the district, herein designated "electors", are entitled to vote:

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- (a) all individuals having the qualifications of electors under the constitution and general election laws of the state, except that no registration of electors may be required;
- 9 (b) guardians, executors, administrators, and10 trustees;
- 11 (c) domestic corporations, by their duly authorized
 12 agents.
 - elector is permitted to cast one vote for each 40 acres of irrigable land or major fraction thereof owned by the elector within the district, irrespective of the location of the irrigable lands within the tracts designated by the commissioners for assessment and taxation purposes or within congressional subdivisions, platted lots or blocks (except as hereinafter provided for), election precincts, or district divisions, but any elector owning any less than 40 acres of irrigable land is entitled to one vote. Until the irrigable area under the proposed plan of reclamation is determined, all land included within the boundaries of the district shall must be considered irrigable land for

election purposes.

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(3) Whenever land is owned by co-owners, the owners may designate one of their number or an agent to cast the vote for the owners, and one vote only for each 40 acres of irrigable land or major fraction thereof may be cast by the voting co-owner or agent. Whenever land is under contract of sale to a purchaser residing within the state, the purchaser may vote on behalf of the owner of the land. When voting, the agent of a corporation or co-owners, the co-owner designated for purpose of voting, or the purchaser of land under contract of sale, as the case may be, shall file with the secretary of the district or with the election officials a written instrument of his authority, executed and acknowledged by the proper officers of the corporation, by the co-owners, or by the owner of land under contract of sale, as the case may be, and thereupon the agent or co-owner or purchaser, as the case may be, is an elector within the meaning of this part. Whenever the total irrigable acreage within any one district has been platted or subdivided into lots or blocks to the extent of 5% or more of the total acreage of the district or whenever the majority of the district board adopts a resolution allowing it, each elector is permitted to cast one vote for each acre of irrigable land or major fraction thereof of an acre of irrigable land owned by the elector within the district,

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irrespective of the location of such irrigable lands within the tracts designated by the commissioners for assessment and taxation purposes or within the congressional subdivisions, but any elector owning any less than I acre of irrigable land within the district is entitled to one vote. The balloting shall must take place in the following manner: 10 votes or less, separate ballots will be used: more than 10 votes, the elector shall vote in blocks of 10 using one ballot for each 10 votes and separate ballots for odd votes over multiples of 10."

*85-7-2136. Collection of taxes or assessment. (1) On or before the third Monday in August of each year the board of commissioners shall furnish the agent of the department of revenue in each county in which any of the lands of the district are situate a correct list of all the district lands in such the county, together with the amount of the total taxes or assessments against said the lands for district purposes. The agent of the department of revenue in each county shall immediately thereafter, and prior to the delivery of the assessment book to the county treasurer, cause said the assessment roll to be entered in the assessment book of said the county for each year.

(2) It shall-be is the duty of the county treasurer of each county in which any irrigation district is located, in

whole or in part, to collect and receipt for all taxes and assessments levied by any--such the district, in the same manner and at the same time as is required in the collection of taxes upon real estate for county purposes as provided in 15-16-102;-provided-the. The treasurer shall receive from any taxpayer, at any time, the amount due on account of any district assessments of any kind, whether other taxes on the same real estate are paid or not.

(3) If requested in writing by a board of commissioners of an irrigation district, the county treasurer may receive assistance from an employee of the irrigation district or a commissioner of the district for the purpose of collecting district assessments as provided in 15-16-102, investing district funds as directed by the board of commissioners of the district, and preparing district assessment notices.

(4) When any real estate on account of which such the district taxes and assessments have been levied has been sold to the county and tax certificate of sale is held by the county, the taxpayer may pay to the treasurer at any time any semiannual installment of such the district tax or assessment, together with the penalty and interest to date of payment on such installment; -provided-that such. However, the payment shall may not be deemed considered a redemption of said the property from such the tax sale but shall must

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1 be credited on account of any redemption that may thereafter 2 be made. In case of any payment pursuant to this subsection, 3 a separate tax receipt shall must issue showing exactly what assessments have been paid and shall must show that no other 4 5 tax on said the real estate has been received by said the 6 treasurer; -provided-such. The county treasurer shall may not 7 collect or receive or receipt for any taxes levied for 8 county purposes upon real estate situated wholly or in part 9 within any irrigation district upon which an assessment for 10 the purposes of such the irrigation district has been levied 11 unless the assessment levied for such irrigation district 12 purposes be is paid as herein permitted and the receipt 13 therefor for the payment presented to the county treasurer 14 at the time such the taxes are paid, or paid at the same 15 time."

-End-

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APPROVED BY COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE LIVESTOCK & IRRIGATION

2	INTRODUCED BY BENGTSON
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4	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT MAKING TECHNICAL
5	CHANGES TO THE IRRIGATION DISTRICT LAWS; MODIFYING THE
6	REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMISSIONERS OF IRRIGATION DISTRICTS AND
7	THE PROCESS FOR APPOINTING A COMMISSIONER TO FILL A VACANCY
8	ON THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS; CLARIFYING THE QUALIFICATIONS
9	OF ELECTORS; ALLOWING A COUNTY TREASURER TO RECEIVE
10	ASSISTANCE FROM AN IRRIGATION DISTRICT EMPLOYEE OR
11	COMMISSIONER FOR CERTAIN DISTRICT-RELATED TAX FUNCTIONS; AND
12	AMENDING SECTIONS 85-7-1501, 85-7-1703, 85-7-1710, AND
13	85-7-2136, MCA. "
14	
15	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
16	Section 1. Section 85-7-1501, MCA, is amended to read:
17	*85-7-1501. Qualifications of commissioners and term
18	of office. (1) No \underline{A} person may \underline{not} be a commissioner unless
19	he is an owner of irrigated land within the-district THE
20	DISTRICT and is a resident of the county-in-which-the COUNTY
21	IN WHICH THE division of the district orsomeportion
22	thereof, OR SOME PORTION OF THE DIVISION for which the
23	commissioner is to be elected, is situated.
24	(2) The commissioners appointed shall hold their

respective offices until the second Saturday in December

SENATE BILL NO. 432

8	Section 2. Section 85-7-1703, MCA, is amended to read:
7	court."
6	district court and filed in the office of the clerk of the
5	approved by the district court or judge thereof of the
4	of the peace. The bond for a commissioner shall must be
3	commissioners shall qualify in the same manner as justices
2	successors are elected and qualified. Each of the
1	following their appointment and until their respective

9 *85-7-1703. Vacancies among commissioners. In case of a vacancy in the board of commissioners, from any cause, 10 such the vacancy shall must be filled until the next regular 11 12 or special election by appointment by the board. The 13 remaining commissioners shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of filling any vacancy. If a vacancy exists for every position on the board, the judge of the district court 15 of the county in which the division or major portion thereof 16 of the division is situated shall make the appointments. The 17 18 appointee shall must be an owner of irrigated land within 19 the division of the district; -shall and must be a resident of the county-in-which-the division of the district for-some 20 portion--of--the-division for which such the commissioner is 21 22 so elected +-is-situated, and shall hold office until his 23 successor is elected and qualified."

Section 3. Section 85-7-1710, MCA, is amended to read:

"85-7-1710. Qualification of electors and nature of

SB 0432/02

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voting rights. (1) At all elections held under the 1 provisions of this part, except as otherwise expressly provided, the following holders of title or evidence of title to irrigated lands within the district, herein designated "electors", are entitled to vote:

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- (a) all individuals having the qualifications of 6 electors under the constitution and general election laws of 8 the state, except that no registration of electors may be required; 9
- (b) quardians, administrators. and executors, 10 11 trustees;
- (c) domestic corporations, by their duly authorized 12 13 agents.
 - (2) In all elections held under this part, each elector is permitted to cast one vote for each 40 acres of irrigable land or major fraction thereof owned by the elector within the district, irrespective of the location of the irrigable lands within the tracts designated by the commissioners for assessment and taxation purposes or within congressional subdivisions, platted lots or blocks (except as hereinafter provided for), election precincts, or district divisions, but any elector owning any less than 40 acres of irrigable land is entitled to one vote. Until the irrigable area under the proposed plan of reclamation is determined, all land included within the boundaries of the

- district shall must be considered irrigable land for 2 election purposes.
- 3 (3) Whenever land is owned by co-owners, the owners may designate one of their number or an agent to cast the vote for the owners, and one vote only for each 40 acres of 5 irrigable land or major fraction thereof may be cast by the 7 voting co-owner or agent. Whenever land is under contract of sale to a purchaser residing within the state, the purchaser 9 may vote on behalf of the owner of the land. When voting, 10 the agent of a corporation or co-owners, the co-owner 11 designated for purpose of voting, or the purchaser of land 12 under contract of sale, as the case may be, shall file with 13 the secretary of the district or with the election officials 14 a written instrument of his authority, executed and 15 acknowledged by the proper officers of the corporation, by 16 the co-owners, or by the owner of land under contract of 17 sale, as the case may be, and thereupon the agent or co-owner or purchaser, as the case may be, is an elector 18 19 within the meaning of this part. Whenever the total 20 irrigable acreage within any one district has been platted 21 or subdivided into lots or blocks to the extent of 5% or 22 more of the total acreage of the district or whenever the majority of the district board adopts a resolution allowing 23 it, each elector is permitted to cast one vote for each acre 24 25 of irrigable land or major fraction thereof of an acre of

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irrigable land owned by the elector within the district, 1 irrespective of the location of such irrigable lands within 2 the tracts designated by the commissioners for assessment 3 taxation purposes or within the congressional 4 and 5 subdivisions, but any elector owning any less than 1 acre of 6 irrigable land within the district is entitled to one vote. The balloting shall must take place in the following manner: 7 10 votes or less, separate ballots will be used; more than 10 votes, the elector shall vote in blocks of 10 using one 9 ballot for each 10 votes and separate ballots for odd votes 10 11 over multiples of 10."

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Section 4. Section 85-7-2136, MCA, is amended to read:

"85-7-2136. Collection of taxes or assessment. (1) On or before the third Monday in August of each year the board of commissioners shall furnish the agent of the department of revenue in each county in which any of the lands of the district are situate a correct list of all the district lands in such the county, together with the amount of the total taxes or assessments against said the lands for district purposes. The agent of the department of revenue in each county shall immediately thereafter, and prior to the delivery of the assessment book to the county treasurer, cause said the assessment roll to be entered in the assessment book of said the county for each year.

(2) It shall-be is the duty of the county treasurer of

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each county in which any irrigation district is located, in
whole or in part, to collect and receipt for all taxes and
assessments levied by any-such the district, in the same
manner and at the same time as is required in the collection
of taxes upon real estate for county purposes as provided in
15-16-102;--provided--the. The treasurer shall receive from
any taxpayer, at any time, the amount due on account of any
district assessments of any kind, whether other taxes on the
same real estate are paid or not.

- 10 (3) If requested in writing by a board of 11 commissioners of an irrigation district, the treasurer may receive assistance from an employee of the 12 13 irrigation district or a commissioner of the district for 14 the purpose of collecting district assessments as provided 15 in 15-16-102, investing district funds as directed by the 16 board of commissioners of the district, and preparing 17 district assessment notices.
 - (4) When any real estate on account of which such the district taxes and assessments have been levied has been sold to the county and tax certificate of sale is held by the county, the taxpayer may pay to the treasurer at any time any semiannual installment of such the district tax or assessment, together with the penalty and interest to date of payment on such installment, -provided-that-such. However,

the payment shall may not be deemed considered a redemption

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of said the property from such the tax sale but shall must 1 be credited on account of any redemption that may thereafter 3 be made. In case of any payment pursuant to this subsection, a separate tax receipt shall must issue showing exactly what 5 assessments have been paid and shall must show that no other 6 tax on said the real estate has been received by said the treasurer; -provided-such. The county treasurer shall may not 7 8 collect or receive or receipt for any taxes levied for 9 county purposes upon real estate situated wholly or in part 10 within any irrigation district upon which an assessment for 11 the purposes of such the irrigation district has been levied 12 unless the assessment levied for such irrigation district 13 purposes be is paid as herein permitted and the receipt 14 therefor for the payment presented to the county treasurer 15 at the time such the taxes are paid, or paid at the same time." 16

-End-

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51st Legislature

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SB 0432/02

2	INTRODUCED BY BENGTSON
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4	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT MAKING TECHNICAL
5	CHANGES TO THE IRRIGATION DISTRICT LAWS; MODIFYING THE
6	REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMISSIONERS OF IRRIGATION DISTRICTS AND
7	THE PROCESS FOR APPOINTING A COMMISSIONER TO FILL A VACANCY
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9	OF ELECTORS; ALLOWING A COUNTY TREASURER TO RECEIVE
10	ASSISTANCE FROM AN IRRIGATION DISTRICT EMPLOYEE OR
11	COMMISSIONER FOR CERTAIN DISTRICT-RELATED TAX FUNCTIONS; AND
12	AMENDING SECTIONS 85-7-1501, 85-7-1703, 85-7-1710, AND
13	85-7-2136, MCA. "
14	
15	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
16	Section 1. Section 85-7-1501, MCA, is amended to read:
17	*85-7-1501. Qualifications of commissioners and term
18	of office. (1) No $\underline{\mathbf{A}}$ person may $\underline{\mathtt{not}}$ be a commissioner unless
19	he is an owner of irrigated land within the-district TH
20	DISTRICT and is a resident of the county-in-which-the COUNTY
21	IN WHICH THE division of the district orsomeportion
22	thereof, OR SOME PORTION OF THE DIVISION for which the

commissioner is to be elected, is situated.

(2) The commissioners appointed shall hold

respective offices until the second Saturday in December

SENATE BILL NO. 432

1	following their appointment and until their respective
2	successors are elected and qualified. Each of the
3	commissioners shall qualify in the same manner as justices
4	of the peace. The bond for a commissioner shall must be
5	approved by the district court or judge thereof of the
6	district court and filed in the office of the clerk of the
7	court."
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Section 2. Section 85-7-1703, MCA, is amended to read: *85-7-1703. Vacancies among commissioners. In case of a vacancy in the board of commissioners, from any cause, such the vacancy shall must be filled until the next regular or special election by appointment by the board. The remaining commissioners shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of filling any vacancy. If a vacancy exists for every position on the board, the judge of the district court of the county in which the division or major portion thereof of the division is situated shall make the appointments. The appointee shall must be an owner of irrigated land within the division of the district, -shall and must be a resident of the county-in-which-the division of the district for-some portion--of--the-division for which such the commissioner is so elected)-is-situated; and shall hold office until his successor is elected and qualified."

Section 3. Section 85-7-1710, MCA, is amended to read:

*85-7-1710. Qualification of electors and nature of

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- voting rights. (1) At all elections held under the provisions of this part, except as otherwise expressly provided, the following holders of title or evidence of title to irrigated lands within the district, herein designated "electors", are entitled to vote:
- 6 (a) all individuals having the qualifications of electors under the constitution and general election laws of the state, except that no registration of electors may be required;
- 12 (c) domestic corporations, by their duly authorized
 13 agents.
 - elector is permitted to cast one vote for each 40 acres of irrigable land or major fraction thereof owned by the elector within the district, irrespective of the location of the irrigable lands within the tracts designated by the commissioners for assessment and taxation purposes or within congressional subdivisions, platted lots or blocks (except as hereinafter provided for), election precincts, or district divisions, but any elector owning any less than 40 acres of irrigable land is entitled to one vote. Until the irrigable area under the proposed plan of reclamation is determined, all land included within the boundaries of the

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- district shall must be considered irrigable land for election purposes.
 - (3) Whenever land is owned by co-owners, the owners may designate one of their number or an agent to cast the vote for the owners, and one vote only for each 40 acres of irrigable land or major fraction thereof may be cast by the voting co-owner or agent. Whenever land is under contract of sale to a purchaser residing within the state, the purchaser may vote on behalf of the owner of the land. When voting, the agent of a corporation or co-owners, the co-owner designated for purpose of voting, or the purchaser of land under contract of sale, as the case may be, shall file with the secretary of the district or with the election officials written instrument of his authority, executed and acknowledged by the proper officers of the corporation, by the co-owners, or by the owner of land under contract of sale, as the case may be, and thereupon the agent or co-owner or purchaser, as the case may be, is an elector within the meaning of this part. Whenever the total irrigable acreage within any one district has been platted or subdivided into lots or blocks to the extent of 5% or more of the total acreage of the district or whenever the majority of the district board adopts a resolution allowing it, each elector is permitted to cast one vote for each acre of irrigable land or major fraction thereof of an acre of

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1 irrigable land owned by the elector within the district, irrespective of the location of such irrigable lands within 2 the tracts designated by the commissioners for assessment taxation purposes or within the congressional 4 and subdivisions, but any elector owning any less than 1 acre of 5 irrigable land within the district is entitled to one vote. The balloting shall must take place in the following manner: 7 10 votes or less, separate ballots will be used; more than 9 10 votes, the elector shall vote in blocks of 10 using one ballot for each 10 votes and separate ballots for odd votes 10 over multiples of 10." 11

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Section 4. Section 85-7-2136, MCA, is amended to read:

"85-7-2136. Collection of taxes or assessment. (1) On
or before the third Monday in August of each year the board
of commissioners shall furnish the agent of the department
of revenue in each county in which any of the lands of the
district are situate a correct list of all the district
lands in such the county, together with the amount of the
total taxes or assessments against said the lands for
district purposes. The agent of the department of revenue in
each county shall immediately thereafter, and prior to the
delivery of the assessment book to the county treasurer,
cause said the assessment roll to be entered in the
assessment book of said the county for each year.

(2) It shall-be is the duty of the county treasurer of

each county in which any irrigation district is located, in
whole or in part, to collect and receipt for all taxes and
assessments levied by any-such the district, in the same
manner and at the same time as is required in the collection
of taxes upon real estate for county purposes as provided in

6 15-16-1027--provided--the. The treasurer shall receive from

7 any taxpayer, at any time, the amount due on account of any

8 district assessments of any kind, whether other taxes on the

9 same real estate are paid or not.

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10 (3) If requested in writing by a board of 11 commissioners of an irrigation district, the county treasurer may receive assistance from an employee of the 12 irrigation district or a commissioner of the district for 13 14 the purpose of collecting district assessments as provided 15 in 15-16-102, investing district funds as directed by the board of commissioners of the district, and preparing 16 17 district assessment notices.

(4) When any real estate on account of which such the district taxes and assessments have been levied has been sold to the county and tax certificate of sale is held by the county, the taxpayer may pay to the treasurer at any time any semiannual installment of such the district tax or assessment, together with the penalty and interest to date

of payment on such installment; -provided-that-such. However,

25 <u>the payment shall may not be deemed considered</u> a redemption

of said the property from such the tax sale but shall must be credited on account of any redemption that may thereafter be made. In case of any payment pursuant to this subsection, a separate tax receipt shall must issue showing exactly what 5 assessments have been paid and shall must show that no other tax on said the real estate has been received by said the 7 treasurer; -provided-such. The county treasurer shall may not collect or receive or receipt for any taxes levied for 9 county purposes upon real estate situated wholly or in part 10 within any irrigation district upon which an assessment for 11 the purposes of such the irrigation district has been levied 12 unless the assessment levied for such irrigation district 13 purposes be is paid as herein permitted and the receipt therefor for the payment presented to the county treasurer 14 15 at the time such the taxes are paid, or paid at the same 16 time."

-End-

March 22, 1989

Page 1 of 3

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on <u>Agriculture</u>, <u>Livestock</u>, and <u>Irrigation</u> report that <u>SENATE BILL 432</u> (third reading copy -- blue) <u>be concurred in as amended</u>.

Signed: Bob Bachini, Chairman

And, that such amendments read:

1. Title, line 9. Following: "ELECTORS;"
Insert: "REVISING VOTING PROCEDURES:"

2. Title, line 11.
Following: "FUNCTIONS;"
Insert: "DEFINING IRRIGABLE LAND;"

3. Page 1, line 19.
Strike: "irrigated"
Insert: "irrigable"
Following: "THE"
Insert: "division of the"

4. Page 1, line 20.
Following: "DISTRICT"
Insert: "he is to represent"

5. Page 1, lines 22 and 23. Strike: "for which the commissioner is to be elected"

6. Page 1, line 23.
Following: "situated"
Insert: "is situated"

7. Page 1, line 25 through page 2, line 1. Following: "until" on line 25 Strike: remainder of line 25 through "until" on page 2, line 1

8. Page 2, line 18.
Strike: "irrigated"

9. Page 2, line 19. Following: "shall" Insert: "he represents"

Insert: "irrigable"

10. Page 2, line 20. Following: "the"
Insert: "county in which the"

11. Page 2, line 21. Strike: "for which" Strike: "the commissioner is"

13. Page 3, line 4. Strike: "irrigated" Insert: "irrigable"

Insert: "(a)"

14. Page 5, line 7.
Strike: "The balloting shall must take place in the following manner"
Insert: "(4) The board of commissioners shall choose one of the following methods of balloting
Following: ":"

15. Page 5, line 11.
Following: "10"
Insert: "; or (b) the elector shall submit a ballot that includes the number of acres owned and the number of votes being cast"

classified as irrigable by the district or the United States government; or
(2) land decreed as taxable acreage under 85-7-1841 through 85-7-1845.

NEW SECTION. Section 6. Codification instruction.

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March 22, 1989 Page 3 of **3**

[Section 5] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 85, chapter 7, and the provisions of Title 85, chapter 7, apply to [section 5]."

1	SENATE BILL NO. 432
2	INTRODUCED BY BENGTSON
3	
4	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT MAKING TECHNICAL
5	CHANGES TO THE IRRIGATION DISTRICT LAWS; MODIFYING THE
6	REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMISSIONERS OF IRRIGATION DISTRICTS AND
7	THE PROCESS FOR APPOINTING A COMMISSIONER TO FILL A VACANCY
8	ON THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS; CLARIFYING THE QUALIFICATIONS
9	OF ELECTORS; REVISING VOTING PROCEDURES; ALLOWING A COUNTY
10	TREASURER TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FROM AN IRRIGATION DISTRICT
11	EMPLOYEE OR COMMISSIONER FOR CERTAIN DISTRICT-RELATED TAX
12	FUNCTIONS; DEFINING IRRIGABLE LAND; AND AMENDING SECTIONS
13	85-7-1501, 85-7-1703, 85-7-1710, AND 85-7-2136, MCA. "
14	
15	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
16	Section 1. Section 85-7-1501, MCA, is amended to read:
17	*85-7-1501. Qualifications of commissioners and term
18	of office. (1) No \underline{A} person may \underline{not} be a commissioner unless
19	he is an owner of irrigated IRRIGABLE land within the
20	district THE DIVISION OF THE DISTRICT HE IS TO REPRESENT and
21	is a resident of the county-in-which-the COUNTY IN WHICH THE
22	division of the district or-some-portion-thereof, OR SOME
23	PORTION OF THE DIVISION for-which-the-commissioner-is-tobe
24	elected, -is-situated IS SITUATED.
25	(2) The commissioners appointed shall hold their

1	respective offices until thesecondSaturdayinDecember
2	following-their-appointment-and-until their respective
3	successors are elected and qualified. Each of the
4	commissioners shall qualify in the same manner as justices
5	of the peace. The bond for a commissioner shall must be
6	approved by the district court or judge thereof of the
7	district court and filed in the office of the clerk of the
8	court."

Section 2. Section 85-7-1703, MCA, is amended to read: 9 "85-7-1703. Vacancies among commissioners. In case of 10 a vacancy in the board of commissioners, from any cause, 11 12 such the vacancy shall must be filled until the next regular or special election by appointment by the board. The 13 remaining commissioners shall constitute a quorum for the 14 15 purpose of filling any vacancy. If a vacancy exists for 16 every position on the board, the judge of the district court 17 of the county in which the division or major portion thereof 18 of the division is situated shall make the appointments. The 19 appointee shall must be an owner of irrigated IRRIGABLE land 20 within the division of the districty-shall HE REPRESENTS and must be a resident of the county--in--which--the COUNTY IN 21 22 WHICH THE division of the district for-some-portion-of-the 23 division for-which such the-commissioner-is so elected) -- is 24 situated, and OR SOME PORTION OF THE DIVISION IS SITUATED. A 25 COMMISSIONER APPOINTED UNDER THIS SECTION shall hold office

- until his successor is elected and qualified."
- 2 Section 3. Section 85-7-1710, MCA, is amended to read:
- 3 "85-7-1710. Qualification of electors and nature of 4 voting rights. (1) At all elections held under the
- provisions of this part, except as otherwise expressly
- provided, the following holders of title or evidence of
- 7 title to irrigated IRRIGABLE lands within the district,
- herein designated "electors", are entitled to vote:
- 9 (a) all individuals having the qualifications of
- 10 electors under the constitution and general election laws of
- 11 the state, except that no registration of electors may be
- 12 required;
- 13 (b) quardians, executors, administrators, and
- 14 trustees:
- (c) domestic corporations, by their duly authorized 15
- 16 agents.
- 17 (2) In all elections held under this part, each
- 18 elector is permitted to cast one vote for each 40 acres of
- 19 irrigable land or major fraction thereof owned by the
- 20 elector within the district, irrespective of the location of
- 21 the irrigable lands within the tracts designated by the
- 22 commissioners for assessment and taxation purposes or within
- 23
- congressional subdivisions, platted lots or blocks (except
- 24 as hereinafter provided for), election precincts, or
- 25 district divisions, but any elector owning any less than 40

- 1 acres of irrigable land is entitled to one vote. Until the
- irrigable area under the proposed plan of reclamation is
- 3 determined, all land included within the boundaries of the
- 4 district shall must be considered irrigable land for
 - election purposes.

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- (3) Whenever land is owned by co-owners, the owners
- 7 may designate one of their number or an agent to cast the
- vote for the owners, and one vote only for each 40 acres of
 - irrigable land or major fraction thereof may be cast by the
 - voting co-owner or agent. Whenever land is under contract of
- 11 sale to a purchaser residing within the state, the purchaser
- 12 may vote on behalf of the owner of the land. When voting,
- 13 the agent of a corporation or co-owners, the co-owner
- 14 designated for purpose of voting, or the purchaser of land
- 15 under contract of sale, as the case may be, shall file with
- the secretary of the district or with the election officials 16
- a written instrument of his authority, executed and 17
- acknowledged by the proper officers of the corporation, by 18
- 19 the co-owners, or by the owner of land under contract of
- 20 sale, as the case may be, and thereupon the agent or
- co-owner or purchaser, as the case may be, is an elector
 - within the meaning of this part. Whenever the total
- 23 irrigable acreage within any one district has been platted
- or subdivided into lots or blocks to the extent of 5% or
- more of the total acreage of the district or whenever the 25
- SB 432

majority of the district board adopts a resolution allowing 1 it, each elector is permitted to cast one vote for each acre of irrigable land or major fraction thereof of an acre of 3 irrigable land owned by the elector within the district, 4 irrespective of the location of such irrigable lands within the tracts designated by the commissioners for assessment 6 and taxation purposes or within the congressional 7 subdivisions, but any elector owning any less than 1 acre of 8 irrigable land within the district is entitled to one vote. 9 10 The-balloting-shall-must-take-place-in-the-following--manner

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(A) 10 votes or less, separate ballots will be used; more than 10 votes, the elector shall vote in blocks of 10 using one ballot for each 10 votes and separate ballots for odd votes over multiples of 10; OR

FOLLOWING METHODS OF BALLOTING:

(4) THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SHALL CHOOSE ONE OF THE

- (B) THE ELECTOR SHALL SUBMIT A BALLOT THAT INCLUDES

 THE NUMBER OF ACRES OWNED AND THE NUMBER OF VOTES BEING

 CAST."
- Section 4. Section 85-7-2136, MCA, is amended to read:

 "85-7-2136. Collection of taxes or assessment. (1) On
 or before the third Monday in August of each year the board
 of commissioners shall furnish the agent of the department
 of revenue in each county in which any of the lands of the
 district are situate a correct list of all the district

- lands in such the county, together with the amount of the total taxes or assessments against said the lands for district purposes. The agent of the department of revenue in each county shall immediately thereafter, and prior to the delivery of the assessment book to the county treasurer, cause said the assessment roll to be entered in the assessment book of said the county for each year.
- 8 (2) It shall-be is the duty of the county treasurer of each county in which any irrigation district is located, in 10 whole or in part, to collect and receipt for all taxes and 11 assessments levied by any-such the district, in the same 12 manner and at the same time as is required in the collection 13 of taxes upon real estate for county purposes as provided in 14 15-16-102; -- provided -- the. The treasurer shall receive from 15 any taxpayer, at any time, the amount due on account of any district assessments of any kind, whether other taxes on the 16 17 same real estate are paid or not.
- 18 (3) If requested in writing by a board of 19 commissioners of an irrigation district, the county treasurer may receive assistance from an employee of the 20 irrigation district or a commissioner of the district for 21 22 the purpose of collecting district assessments as provided in 15-16-102, investing district funds as directed by the 23 board of commissioners of the district, and preparing 24 25 district assessment notices.

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GOVERNMENT; OR

(4) When any real estate on account of which such the
district taxes and assessments have been levied has been
sold to the county and tax certificate of sale is held by
the county, the taxpayer may pay to the treasurer at any
time any semiannual installment of such the district tax or
assessment, together with the penalty and interest to date
of payment on such installment;-provided-that-such. However,
the payment shall may not be deemed considered a redemption
of said the property from such the tax sale but shall must
be credited on account of any redemption that may thereafter
be made. In case of any payment pursuant to this subsection,
a separate tax receipt shall must issue showing exactly what
assessments have been paid and shall must show that no other
tax on said the real estate has been received by said the
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treasurer;-provided-such. The county treasurer shall may not
collect or receive or receipt for any taxes levied for
county purposes upon real estate situated wholly or in part
within any irrigation district upon which an assessment for
the purposes of such the irrigation district has been levied
unless the assessment levied for such irrigation district
purposes be \underline{is} paid as herein permitted and the receipt
therefor for the payment presented to the county treasurer
at the time and the tour are all or ested at the same
at the time such the taxes are paid, or paid at the same

THROUGH 85-7-1845.

NEW SECTION. SECTION 6. CODIFICATION INSTRUCTION.

[SECTION 5] IS INTENDED TO BE CODIFIED AS AN INTEGRAL PART

OF TITLE 85, CHAPTER 7, AND THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 85,

CHAPTER 7, APPLY TO [SECTION 5].

-End-

(1) LAND THAT CAN RECEIVE IRRIGATION WATER AND IS

(2) LAND DECREED AS TAXABLE ACREAGE UNDER 85-7-1841

CLASSIFIED AS IRRIGABLE BY THE DISTRICT OR THE UNITED STATES

AS USED IN THIS CHAPTER, "IRRIGABLE LAND" MEANS:

NEW SECTION, SECTION 5. DEFINITION OF IRRIGABLE LAND.