

**UPDATED SUMMARY
SENATE BILL 16-145**

Second Regular Session - Seventieth Colorado General Assembly

This summary applies to the reengrossed version of this bill as introduced in the second house. It does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. This summary reflects only the main points of the legislation.

The Colorado river water conservation district's (district) 1937 organic act provides a mechanism for the creation of a subdistrict within the 15-county district that requires a petition signed by 50% of the property owners of the proposed subdistrict to be presented to, and approved by, a court which may then declare the subdistrict formed. Because of changes in the amount and type of property ownership over the years, the 50% signature threshold is no longer practical.

The bill provides an alternative mechanism to petition for the organization of a subdistrict of the district. Following initial approval of the board of directors, including unanimous approval of the directors representing the geographic area that would be covered by the proposed subdistrict, the petition must include the signatures of the lesser of 10% or 200 electors of the geographic area covered by the proposed subdistrict. The petition must then be presented to a court for approval at a hearing and, upon approval, is put to a vote at ~~a districtwide~~ *an election within the boundaries of the proposed subdistrict*. If a majority of the votes are in favor of the formation of the proposed subdistrict, the court shall declare the subdistrict formed.

Italicized words indicate new material added to the original summary; dashes through words indicate deletions from the original summary.
Prepared by the Office of Legislative Legal Services.