By: _____ S.B. No. 472

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the abolition of certain water control and improvement districts.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 43, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 43.0741 to read as follows:

Sec. 43.0741. ABOLITION OF CERTAIN WATER CONTROL AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS THAT DELIVER RAW WATER TO MUNICIPALITIES. (a) This section applies only to:

(1) a water control and improvement district that:

(A) is located partly or wholly in a municipality as a result of annexation or incorporation;

(B) diverts raw water from the Rio Grande and in a 12-month period delivers at least 80 percent of that raw water to the municipality for municipal use; and

(C) has no outstanding bonded indebtedness; and

(2) a municipality that receives raw water from a district described by Subdivision (1).

(b) A municipality may adopt an ordinance abolishing a district by a vote of at least two-thirds of the membership of the municipality's governing body if the governing body determines that:

(1) at least 80 percent of the raw water diverted by the district in any 12-month period was for municipal use by the

municipality;

(2) the district has no outstanding bonded indebtedness;

(3) the services furnished and functions performed by the district can be furnished and performed by the municipality; and

(4) the abolition of the district is in the best interests of the residents and property of the municipality and the district.

(c) The voters of the municipality may protest the enactment or enforcement of the ordinance by filing a petition with the secretary of the municipality. The petition must be signed by a number of qualified voters of the municipality that is equal to at least 10 percent of the number of voters who voted in the most recent election for municipal officers. The petition must be filed not later than the 30th day after the later of:

(1) the effective date of the ordinance; or

(2) the date of publication of the ordinance.

(d) The secretary shall verify the signatures on a petition filed in accordance with Subsection (c) and present the verified petition to the governing body of the municipality at its next scheduled meeting.

(e) On receipt of a verified petition, the governing body of the municipality shall suspend the ordinance, and the municipality may not take an action under the ordinance.

(f) The governing body of the municipality shall reconsider the suspended ordinance at its next meeting. If the governing body

does not repeal the ordinance, the governing body shall submit a proposition for or against the ordinance to the voters at the next municipal election or at a special election the governing body may order for that purpose. The ordinance does not take effect unless a majority of the voters voting in the election vote for the ordinance.

(g) The ordinance takes effect on:

(1) the expiration of the period for filing a petition under Subsection (c) if the voters of the municipality do not file a petition that meets the requirements of that subsection before the expiration of that period; or

(2) the approval of the ordinance at an election under Subsection (f).

(h) If the ordinance takes effect:

(1) the district is abolished;

(2) the property and other assets of the district vest in the municipality;

(3) the municipality becomes responsible for operating the district's facilities for the benefit of the district's existing customers and performing the services and functions that were performed by the district; and

(4) the municipality assumes all the debts, liabilities, and obligations of the district.

(i) A district that is abolished under this section shall provide its management and operational records to the municipality to ensure the orderly transfer of management and operational responsibility to the municipality.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

S.B. No. 472 By [signature]

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FEB 11 2005 Filed with the Secretary of the Senate

FEB 22 2005 Read and referred to Committee on NATURAL RESOURCES

_____ Reported favorably _____

_____ Reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute; Committee Substitute read first time.

_____ Ordered not printed

_____ Laid before the Senate

_____ Senate and Constitutional Rules to permit consideration suspended by: { unanimous consent / ____ yeas, ____ nays

_____ Read second time, _____, and ordered engrossed by: { unanimous consent / a viva voce vote / ____ yeas, ____ nays

_____ Senate and Constitutional 3 Day Rule suspended by a vote of ____ yeas, ____ nays.

_____ Read third time, _____, and passed by: { A viva voce vote / ____ yeas, ____ nays

_____
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

OTHER ACTION:

_____ Engrossed

_____ Sent to House

Engrossing Clerk _____

_____ Received from the Senate

_____ Read first time and referred to Committee on _____

_____ Reported ____favorably (as amended) (as substituted)

_____ Sent to Committee on (Calendars) (Local & Consent Calendars)

_____ Read second time (comm. subst.) (amended); passed to third reading (failed) by a (non-record vote) (record vote of ____ yeas, ____ nays, ____ present, not voting)

_____ Constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days suspended (failed to suspend) by a vote of ____ yeas, ____ nays, ____ present, not voting.

_____ Read third time (amended); finally passed (failed to pass) by a (non-record vote) (record vote of ____ yeas, ____ nays, ____ present, not voting)

_____ Returned to Senate.

_____
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE

_____ Returned from House without amendment.

_____ Returned from House with ____ amendments.

_____ Concurred in House amendments by a viva voce vote ____ yeas, ____ nays.

_____ Refused to concur in House amendments and requested the appointment of a Conference Committee to adjust the differences.

_____ Senate conferees instructed.

_____ Senate conferees appointed: _____, Chairman; _____

_____, _____, and _____

_____ House granted Senate request. House conferees appointed: _____ , Chairman;

_____ , _____ , _____ .

_____ Conference Committee Report read and filed with the Secretary of the Senate.

_____ Conference Committee Report adopted on the part of the House by: _____

{ a viva voce vote
{ _____ yeas, _____ nays

_____ Conference Committee Report adopted on the part of the Senate by:

{ a viva voce vote
{ _____ yeas, _____ nays

OTHER ACTION:

_____ Recommitted to Conference Committee

_____ Conferees discharged.

_____ Conference Committee Report failed of adoption by: _____

{ a viva voce vote
{ _____ yeas, _____ nays