

SUBJECT: Approval for subdivision plats in ETJs

COMMITTEE: Land and Resource Management — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 6 ayes — Bosse, B. Turner, Crabb, hamric, Mowery, Staples
0 nays
3 absent — Howard, Jackson, Krusee

WITNESSES: For — Robert Eckels, Harris County Commissioners Court
Against — None

BACKGROUND : Individuals who own land in the extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) of a municipality and wish to subdivide the land must gain approval from the municipality and county prior to filing the subdivision plat with the county clerk.

DIGEST: HB 2900 would provide that if one of the governmental entities did not require approval prior to filing a subdivision plat, the land owner could request from it a written statement certifying that approval was not needed from that entity. The certification would have to be attached to the plat filed with the other entity.

The bill would take effect September 1, 1997, and apply only to a plat for a subdivision of land filed on or after that date.

SUPPORTERS SAY: HB 2900 would remove unnecessary red tape from the subdivision platting process. If one government entity decides that it does not need to approve the plat, a written statement to this effect should satisfy requirements that the subdivider has received all necessary approvals. This would streamline and expedite the subdivision platting process.

OPPONENTS SAY: No apparent opposition.