

- SUBJECT:** Adding or excluding land in county development districts
- COMMITTEE:** Ways and Means — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 8 ayes — Craddick, Heflin, Holzheuser, Horn, Oliveira, Telford, Thompson, Williamson
- 0 nays
- 3 absent — Ramsay, Grusendorf, Stiles
- SENATE VOTE:** On final passage, Local and Consent Calendar, May 5 — 31-0
- WITNESSES:** No public hearing.
- BACKGROUND :** The 74th Legislature authorized creation of county development districts to provide incentives for the location, construction, and development of business and entertainment projects in rural counties. Landowners may petition the county commissioners court to create a district. The commissioners must hold a hearing and an election before issuing an order to create the district. Once a district is created, the commissioners may add or exclude land if they unanimously determine that the action would serve the best interests of the persons and property of the district.
- DIGEST:** SB 1451 would require a county commissioners court to hold elections to approve adding land to a county development district. The court would on the same day have to hold elections in the existing territory and in the territory to be added. The court could order the expansion only upon approval of a majority of the voters in each election.
- A commissioners court that made a finding to exclude land from a county development district would enter an order excluding the land.
- SB 1451 would take immediate effect if finally approved by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house.

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NOTES: A related bill, SB 1425 by Nelson, relating the costs of developing districts, is also set for second reading on today's calendar.