

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

H.B. 3590  
By: Hawley (Truan)  
Natural Resources  
5-16-97  
Committee Report (Amended)

### **DIGEST**

Currently, agriculture is the largest industry in San Patricio County. Last year the county received considerably less rainfall than the yearly average of 35 inches. This bill outlines provisions regarding the creation, administration, powers, duties, operation, and financing of the San Patricio County Groundwater Conservation District.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, H.B. 3590 creates the San Patricio County Groundwater Conservation District.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. CREATION. Creates the San Patricio Groundwater Conservation District (district), subject to approval at a confirmation election under Section 8 of this Act.

SECTION 2. DEFINITION. Defines "district."

SECTION 3. BOUNDARIES. Sets forth the physical boundaries of the district.

SECTION 4. FINDING OF BENEFIT. Provides that the district is created to serve a public use and benefit.

SECTION 5. POWERS. Sets forth the powers of the district.

SECTION 6. BOARD OF DIRECTORS. Sets forth provisions regarding the board of directors.

SECTION 7. TEMPORARY DIRECTORS. Sets forth the composition of the temporary board of directors.

SECTION 8. CONFIRMATION AND INITIAL DIRECTORS' ELECTION. Sets forth provisions for an election to confirm the establishment of the district and to elect five initial directors.

SECTION 9. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS. Sets forth provisions regarding the election of directors.

SECTION 10. LIMITATION ON TAXATION. Prohibits the district from imposing an ad valorem tax at a rate that exceeds five cents in the \$100 valuation of taxable property in the district.

SECTION 11. FINDINGS RELATED TO PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS. Sets forth the procedural requirements relating to the creation of this district via this Act.

SECTION 12. Emergency clause.  
Effective date: upon passage.

## **SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES**

### Amendment 1.

In SECTION 5, add a new Subsection (c), to read as follows:

(c) Notwithstanding Subsection (a) of this section, the following provisions prevail over a conflicting or inconsistent provision in this Act:

- (1) Sections 36.107-36.108, Water Code;
- (2) Sections 36.159-36.161, Water Code; and
- (3) Subchapter I, Water Code.