

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 3817
By: Kuempel (Armbrister)
Natural Resources
5/13/1999
Engrossed

DIGEST

H.B. 3817 makes amendments to the original legislation creating the Guadalupe County Groundwater Conservation District. This bill also sets out the boundaries of the district, creates a fair funding mechanism and clarifies the voting districts and temporary board members so that an election can take place.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 3817 establishes conditions regarding the boundaries, confirmation election, administration, powers, duties, operation, and financing of the Guadalupe 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. Amends Section 3, Chapter 1066, Acts of the 75th Legislature, Regular Session, 1997, to include the territory contained in the part of Guadalupe County within specified boundaries of the Guadalupe County Groundwater Conservation District (district).

SECTION 2. Amends Sections 5(a), (c), and (d), Chapter 1066, Acts of the 75th Legislature, Regular Session, 1997, to prohibit the district from imposing a fee on a well used exclusively for domestic or livestock watering purposes. Makes conforming and nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 3. Amends Section 6, Chapter 1066, Acts of the 75th Legislature, Regular Session, 1997, by amending Subsection (a), and adding Subsection (g), (h), and (i), to increase the number of directors on the board of directors from five to seven, and specify that they are to be elected from a single-member districts to be determined by the Guadalupe County Commissioners Court. Prohibits a director from serving more than two consecutive four-year terms. Provides that to be qualified to be elected as a director, a person must be a registered voter in the single-member district that the person represents. Provides that Section 36.059(b), Water Code, does not apply to the district.

SECTION 4. Amends Section 7, Chapter 1066, Acts of the 75th Legislature, Regular Session, 1997, to modify the list of named temporary board members. Requires the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission to appoint the necessary number of persons to fill all vacancies on the board if at any time there are fewer than four, rather than three, qualified temporary directors.

SECTION 5. Amends Sections 8(a) and (b), Chapter 1066, Acts of the 75th Legislature, Regular Session, 1997, to provide for temporary director's to run for an initial directors office. Makes conforming changes.

SECTION 6. Amends Section 9(a), Chapter 1066, Acts of the 75th Legislature, Regular Session, 1997, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 7. States that all legal requirements for the notice, introduction, and passage of this Act have been fulfilled and accomplished.

SECTION 8. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.