

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
77R5303 SGA-F

C.S.S.B. 270
By: Lindsay
Natural Resources
2/28/2001
Committee Report (Substituted)

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, the North Harris County Regional Water Authority is authorized to charge the owner of a well located within its boundaries a fee on the amount of water pumped from the well. However, they are prohibited from applying the fee to a well “used for the irrigation of agricultural crops.” Nursery products and florist items in the hands of the producer are considered agricultural products in various laws, rules, and regulations, but such producers are continually having to defend their position as producers of agricultural crops. C.S.S.B. 270 expands the definition of “agricultural crop” and adds definitions for “florist item,” “nursery grower,” and “nursery product.”

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 1.02, Chapter 1029, Acts of the 76th Legislature, Regular Session, 1999, to redefine “agricultural crop” and to define “florist item,” “nursery grower,” and “nursery product.”

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2001.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES

Differs from original by adding definitions of “florist item,” “nursery grower,” and “nursery product,” and by redefining “agricultural crop” to include a nursery product or florist item while in the hands of a nursery grower.