

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
84R12935 TSR-F

S.B. 2014
By: Kolkhorst
Intergovernmental Relations
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As Filed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

S.B. 2014 creates Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 23 (district) as a political subdivision of the State of Texas. The district will construct and finance water, sewer, drainage, road, and recreational facilities to serve property within the district, which is located in an unincorporated area of Waller County. The district will be a municipal utility district operating pursuant to Chapters 49 (Provisions Applicable to All Districts) and 54 (Municipal Utility Districts), Water Code.

A special district is needed to finance and construct the utility infrastructure (water, sewer, drainage, roads and recreational facilities) necessary to promote the development of the area within the district.

Special districts are created for specific areas. No special district currently serves the area proposed to be included in the district.

As proposed, S.B. 2014 amends current law relating to the creation of the Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 23 grants a limited power of eminent domain, provides authority to issue bonds and provides authority to impose assessments, fees, and taxes.

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 Subtitle F, Title 6, Special District Local Laws Code, by adding Chapter 7920, as follows:

CHAPTER 7920. WALLER COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 23

Sets forth standard language for the creation of the Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 23 (district) in Waller County. Sets forth standards, procedures, requirements, and criteria for:

Creation and approval of the district (Sections 7920.001-7920.006);

Size, composition, election, and terms of the board of directors of the district (Sections 7920.051 and 7920.052);

Powers and duties of the district (Sections 7920.101-7920.105);

General financial provisions and authority to impose a tax and to issue bonds and obligations for the district (Sections 7920.151-7920.203).

SECTION 2. Sets forth the initial boundaries of the district.

SECTION 3. Provides that all requirements of the constitution and the laws of this state and the rules and procedures of the legislature with respect to the notice, introduction, and passage of this Act are fulfilled and accomplished.

SECTION 4. (a) Provides that if this Act does not receive a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to each house, Subchapter C, Chapter 7920, Special District Local Laws Code, as added by Section 1 of this Act, is amended by adding Section 7920.106, as follows:

Sec. 7920.106. NO EMINENT DOMAIN POWER. Prohibits the district from exercising the power of eminent domain.

(b) Provides that this section is not intended to be an expression of a legislative interpretation of the requirements of Section 17(c) (relating to the requirement of a two-thirds vote on eminent domain approval), Article I, Texas Constitution.

SECTION 5. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2015.