

PROCLAMATION

No. 15121

By The

Governor of the State of Texas

Executive Office  
Austin, Texas  
May 30, 1935.

*To All to Whom These Presents Shall Come:*

WHEREAS, House Bill 914,

"AN ACT to create the San Jacinto River Conservation and Reclamation District under the authority of Section 59, of Article 16, of the Constitution of Texas, and defining the powers and duties of the said District; providing for temporary directors and organization and operation of the District; and the authority and duties of said temporary directors; providing for determining the area of the District for temporary organization and for permanent organization; providing certain duties for the State Board of Water Engineers, State Reclamation Engineers, the Lieutenant Governor of the State and the Senate; providing for the manner of securing funds for engineering surveys and other purposes necessary to develop information essential to the ascertainment of the plan of improvement necessary to secure control of harmful flood waters, and the useful distribution of such water; providing that the said District shall be governed by the provisions of Chapter 25, of the General and Special Laws of the Regular Session of the Thirty-ninth Legislature and the various amendments thereto, in all respects not specifically otherwise provided in this Act; making an appropriation of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) in the District and declaring an emergency,"

was passed by the 44th Legislature in regular session and is now before me, as Governor, for approval or veto; and

WHEREAS, Said bill provides, among other things, the following:

1. For the creation of conservation and reclamation districts without the consent or approval of the voters, or the local authorities of the territory affected. This certainly is a departure from all ideas of local self-government and the imposition of taxes without a vote of the people in the district affected.

2. For the imposition of taxes without approval of the taxpayers affected, and their voice is not heard either in the creation of the district or in the levying of its taxes until the district has proceeded so far as to make their consent to subsequent taxation conditioned upon the assumption of new taxes or the loss of taxes theretofore exacted from them without their consent.

3. It expressly permits the temporary directors to employ each other out of public funds derived from taxes levied by said directors. This has always been contrary to public policy and but for the provisions of this Act would otherwise be unlawful; and

WHEREAS, Because of the foregoing, among other reasons, I am unwilling to sign said bill.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James V. Allred, Governor of Texas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of said State, do hereby proclaim said bill vetoed for the reasons above set out and now on file in the office of the Secretary of State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, James V. Allred, have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal to be affirmed hereto this 30th day of May, A. D. 1935.

JAMES V. ALLRED  
Governor of Texas

(Seal)

By the Governor

(Signed) Clyde E. Smith

Assistant Secretary of State