

By: Wilson

H.B. No. 2095

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 2095:

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C.S.H.B. No. 2095

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to water research conducted by The University of Texas
3 Bureau of Economic Geology.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Title 2, Water Code, is amended by adding
6 Subtitle G to read as follows:

7 SUBTITLE G. WATER RESEARCH

8 CHAPTER 39. WATER RESEARCH CONDUCTED BY BUREAU OF ECONOMIC GEOLOGY

9 Sec. 39.0101. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

10 (1) "Board" means the Texas Water Development Board.

11 (2) "Bureau" means The University of Texas Bureau of
12 Economic Geology.

13 Sec. 39.0102. DATA AND MODELING. (a) The bureau shall, in
14 coordination with the board, make studies of water, including
15 surface water, groundwater, soil moisture, and atmospheric
16 moisture, to improve on data gaps and on the processing, analysis,
17 modeling, and integration of water-related data.

18 (b) The bureau shall, in coordination with the board, work
19 to enhance, advance, or integrate models characterizing the water
20 resources of the state including:

21 (1) improving the techniques for multiscale modeling;

22 (2) expanding the use of artificial intelligence and
23 machine learning techniques;

24 (3) integrating multiscale modeling and machine

1 learning;

2 (4) creating interoperable, modular, or coupled
3 modeling strategies;

4 (5) improving access to and methods for achieving
5 high-performance computing; and

6 (6) improving access to open-source,
7 community-supported modeling.

8 Sec. 39.0103. COOPERATION AND COORDINATION. (a) In
9 fulfilling the duties described by Section 39.0102, the bureau
10 shall cooperate with:

11 (1) the board;

12 (2) the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality;

13 (3) the Edwards Aquifer Authority;

14 (4) river authorities;

15 (5) groundwater conservation districts;

16 (6) The University of Texas;

17 (7) Texas A&M University;

18 (8) Texas Tech University; and

19 (9) any other state agency or university with access
20 to data related to surface water, groundwater, soil moisture, or
21 atmospheric moisture.

22 (b) The bureau may coordinate with federal agencies or
23 private entities as appropriate to fulfill the requirements of this
24 chapter.

25 (c) The agencies, political subdivisions, and universities
26 described by Subsection (a) shall provide, on request and to the
27 extent available, data to the bureau as necessary to fulfill the

1 requirements of this chapter.

2 (d) To the extent of any conflict or inconsistency, the
3 provisions of Chapters 6 and 16 describing the powers, duties, and
4 functions of the board prevail over this chapter.

5 (e) The bureau and the board shall enter into a memorandum
6 of understanding to define their powers, duties, and functions
7 related to this chapter.

8 Sec. 39.0104. RESULTS. The bureau shall cooperate with the
9 board to ensure that the data and information compiled and produced
10 under Section 39.0102 are made available in accordance with Section
11 16.012(d).

12 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.