

Amend **CSSB 624** (committee printing) by striking all below the enacting clause and substituting the following:

SECTION 1. Section 49.001(a)(10), Water Code, is amended to read as follows:

(10) "District facility" means tangible real and personal property of the district, including any plant, equipment, means, recreational facility as defined by Section 49.462, or instrumentality owned, leased, operated, used, controlled, furnished, or supplied for, by, or in connection with the business or operations of a district. The term specifically includes a reservoir or easement of a district.

SECTION 2. Section 49.461(a), Water Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The legislature finds that:

(1) the provision of parks and recreational facilities is necessary and desirable for the health and well-being of the people of this state; and

(2) it is the policy of the state and the purpose of this subchapter to encourage persons in districts to provide parks and recreational facilities for their use and benefit[+

~~[(3) within constitutional limitations, the power to enact laws vested in the legislature by Section 1, Article III, Texas Constitution, is supreme,~~

~~[(4) there is no constitutional inhibition that would prohibit the legislature from authorizing districts to acquire, own, develop, construct, improve, manage, operate, and maintain parks and recreational facilities, and~~

~~[(5) the general legislative power alone is adequate to support the enactment of this subchapter without reference to any specific constitutional authorization].~~

SECTION 3. Section 49.463, Water Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 49.463. AUTHORIZATION OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES. In addition to the other purposes for which a district is created, a district is created for the purpose of financing, developing, and maintaining recreational facilities for the people in the district. A district may accomplish this purpose as provided in this

subchapter.

SECTION 4. Section 49.464(a), Water Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided by Section 49.4645, a [A] district may not issue bonds supported by ad valorem taxes to pay for the development and maintenance of recreational facilities.

SECTION 5. Subchapter N, Chapter 49, Water Code, is amended by adding Section 49.4645 to read as follows:

Sec. 49.4645. DISTRICT IN CERTAIN COUNTIES: BONDS FOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES. (a) A district all or part of which is located in Harris County, Galveston County, Brazoria County, Fort Bend County, or Montgomery County may issue bonds supported by ad valorem taxes to pay for the development and maintenance of recreational facilities only if the bonds are authorized by a majority vote of the qualified voters of the district voting in an election held for that purpose. The outstanding principal amount of bonds, notes, and other obligations issued to finance parks and recreational facilities payable from any source may not exceed an amount equal to one percent of the value of the taxable property in the district as shown by the tax rolls of the central appraisal district at the time of the issuance of the bonds, notes, and other obligations. The board may issue bonds payable solely from revenues by resolution or by order of the board without an election. The district may not issue bonds supported by ad valorem taxes to pay for the development and maintenance of:

- (1) indoor or outdoor swimming pools; or
- (2) golf courses.

(b) Not later than the 10th day before an election is held to authorize the issuance of bonds for the development and maintenance of recreational facilities, the board shall file in the district office for review by the public a park plan covering the land, improvements, facilities, and equipment to be purchased or constructed and their estimated cost, together with maps, plats, drawings, and data fully showing and explaining the park plan. The park plan is not part of the proposition to be voted on and the park plan does not create a contract with the voters.

(c) Notice of a bond election for the development and

maintenance of recreational facilities must contain the proposition to be voted on, which must include the estimate of the probable cost of design, construction, purchase, acquisition, and maintenance of improvements and additions, and incidental expenses connected with the improvements and the issuance of bonds.

(d) A bond election for the development and maintenance of recreational facilities may be held on the same day as another district election. The board may call a bond election by a separate election order or as part of another election order. The board may submit multiple purposes in a single proposition at an election.

(e) The board may call a bond election for the development and maintenance of recreational facilities as a result of an agreement to annex additional territory into the district.

SECTION 6. Subchapter N, Chapter 49, Water Code, is amended by adding Section 49.466 to read as follows:

Sec. 49.466. COMMISSION RULES. (a) The commission shall adopt rules regarding the provision and financing of recreational facilities funded through the issuance of bonds that are supported by ad valorem taxes.

(b) The commission rules shall:

(1) emphasize the primary goal of financing water, sewer, and drainage facilities to serve the district;

(2) emphasize and encourage the secondary goal of financing recreational facilities; and

(3) encourage the conveyance of land to be used for recreational facilities.

SECTION 7. Section 49.461(b), Water Code, and Subchapter I, Chapter 54, Water Code, are repealed.

SECTION 8. This Act takes effect on the date on which the constitutional amendment proposed by the 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003, relating to the provision of parks and recreational facilities by certain conservation and reclamation districts is approved by the voters. If that amendment is not approved by the voters, this Act has no effect.