

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
78R7310 JTS-D

H.B. 2940  
By: McReynolds (Jackson)  
Natural Resources  
5/14/2003  
Engrossed

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

The Texas Environmental Education Partnership (TEEP) was established in 1999 by the Texas Legislature as a public/private nonprofit education partnership for development, implementation, and continued operation of environmental education projects, activities, and programs. The State of Texas does not provide any type of funding for TEEP; however, other states provide some funding for similar programs in their states.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) administers Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEP). SEPs are projects designed to prevent and reduce pollution in the environment as well as educate the public about environmental issues. Businesses which are under enforcement actions with TCEQ may decide to perform an SEP in conjunction with or in lieu of a fine. A business which chooses an SEP must have its project approved by TCEQ. The project could be within the business's community or with an entity authorized by TCEQ.

TEEP is an authorized entity to administer SEPs. Monies received for SEP projects are currently unable to be used for any administrative cost. H.B. 2940 allows the Texas Environmental Education Partnership Fund Board to use no more than seven percent of any SEP monies for the purpose of carrying out the requirements the legislature delegated to this board.

### **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 6, Chapter 105, Acts of the 76th Legislature, Regular Session, 1999 (Article 2654-3g, V.T.C.S.), by adding Subsection (d) to authorize the board of directors of the Texas Environmental Education Partnership Fund (board), notwithstanding Subsection (b) of this section, to use for the board's administrative costs an amount equal to not more than seven percent of the amount deposited to the credit of the Texas Environmental Education Partnership Fund that was given to the board for supplemental environmental projects under Section 7.067 (Supplemental Environmental Projects), Water Code.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2003.