

By: Bailey, Howard, Olivo

H.B. No. 467

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 467:

By: Howard

C.S.H.B. No. 467

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the financing of water and sewer programs in disadvantaged areas in certain counties.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 15, Water Code, is amended by adding Section 15.009 to read as follows:

Sec. 15.009. ELIGIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ECONOMICALLY DISTRESSED AREAS. Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter, Chapter 16, or Chapter 17, a county with a population of three million or more or a county with a population of 350,000 or more that is adjacent to a county with a population of three million or more is eligible for any financial assistance available under this chapter, Chapter 16, or Chapter 17 for providing water and sewer services, connections to water and sewer services, and any other assistance related to water and sewer services in economically distressed areas of the county.

SECTION 2. Sections 16.343(f) and (g), Water Code, are amended to read as follows:

(f) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the only kind of county that may adopt the model rules is:

(1) an affected county; or

(2) a county described by Section 15.009.

(g) Before an application for funds under Section 15.407 or Subchapter P, Chapter 15, or Subchapter K, Chapter 17, may be

1 considered by the board, a political subdivision must adopt the
2 model rules pursuant to this section. A county described by Section
3 15.009 may limit the applicability of the model rules to the portion
4 of the county for which the application is made. If the applicant
5 is a district, nonprofit water supply corporation, or colonia, the
6 applicant must be located in a city or county that has adopted such
7 rules. Applicants for funds under Section 15.407 or Subchapter P,
8 Chapter 15, or Subchapter K, Chapter 17, may not receive funds under
9 those provisions unless the applicable political subdivision
10 adopts and enforces the model rules.

11 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
12 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
13 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
14 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
15 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.