

By: Campbell

H.B. No. 578

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a statewide emergency water delivery plan.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 16, Water Code, is amended by adding Section 16.061 to read as follows:

Sec. 16.061. STATEWIDE EMERGENCY WATER DELIVERY. (a) The board by rule shall require a holder of a surface water permit, a certified filing, or a certificate of adjudication for surface water, a holder of a permit for the export of groundwater from a groundwater conservation district, a retail public water supplier, a wholesale water provider, an irrigation district, and any other person who is transporting groundwater or surface water 20 miles or more to report to the board information, as specified by board rule, regarding the location and condition of water pipelines and other facilities that can be used for water conveyance.

(b) Using the information provided to the board under Subsection (a), the board shall prepare a map that:

(1) identifies the location and condition of all water pipelines and other facilities in the state that can be used to convey water, including currently used and abandoned oil, gas, and water pipelines; and

(2) indicates whether the water pipeline or other facility can pump in one direction only or in two.

(c) On completion of the map required by Subsection (b) and

1 using existing water pipelines and other facilities, the board
2 shall design a complete pipeline system that provides each region
3 of the state access to an undepletable emergency source of water.
4 The design may be coordinated with the design and implementation of
5 the Trans-Texas Corridor developed under Chapter 227,
6 Transportation Code, and shall take into account any existing or
7 potential major source of water in the state, including underused
8 surface and groundwater sources and desalination facilities.

9 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
13 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.