

By: Gattis

H.B. No. 2730

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authority of a municipal utility district to regulate signs and billboards.

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

SECTION 1. Section 54.205, Water Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 54.205. ADOPTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. (a) A district may adopt and enforce reasonable rules and regulations to:

(1) secure and maintain safe, sanitary, and adequate plumbing installations, connections, and appurtenances as subsidiary parts of its sanitary sewer system;

(2) preserve the sanitary condition of all water controlled by the district;

(3) prevent waste or the unauthorized use of water controlled by the district;

(4) regulate privileges on any land or any easement owned or controlled by the district; ~~and~~

(5) provide and regulate a safe and adequate freshwater distribution system; and

(6) license or regulate the type, placement, and appearance of signs and billboards within the district that are not located adjacent to county or state roads or highways to maintain property values within the district.

(b) A licensing requirement or regulation adopted under

1 Subsection (a)(6) may not be more stringent than a licensing
2 requirement or regulation of a municipality in whose corporate
3 limits or extraterritorial jurisdiction the district is located.
4 If a licensing requirement or regulation adopted by a district
5 under Subsection (a)(6) conflicts with a licensing requirement or
6 regulation of a municipality in whose corporate limits or
7 extraterritorial jurisdiction the district is located, the
8 municipal licensing requirement or regulation prevails within the
9 municipality's jurisdiction to the extent of the conflict.

10 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act does not
11 affect a sign or billboard erected in a district before the
12 effective date of this Act. A sign or billboard erected before the
13 effective date of this Act is covered by the law in effect on the
14 date the sign or billboard was erected, and the former law is
15 continued in effect for that purpose.

16 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
20 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.