

By: Gallego

H.B. No. 3477

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3477:

By: Puente

C.S.H.B. No. 3477

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the operation of the strategic mapping program
3 administered by the Texas Water Development Board.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 16.017, Water Code, is amended to read as
6 follows:

7 Sec. 16.017. TOPOGRAPHIC AND GEOLOGIC MAPPING. (a) The
8 executive administrator shall carry out the program for topographic
9 and geologic mapping of the state.

10 (b) The executive administrator shall operate as part of the
11 Texas Natural Resources Information System a strategic mapping
12 program to acquire, store, and distribute digital, geospatial
13 information.

14 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 16, Water Code, is amended
15 by adding Sections 16.023 and 16.024 to read as follows:

16 Sec. 16.023. STRATEGIC MAPPING ACCOUNT. (a) The strategic
17 mapping account is an account in the general revenue fund. The
18 account consists of:

19 (1) money directly appropriated to the board;

20 (2) money transferred by the board from other funds
21 available to the board;

22 (3) money from gifts or grants from the United States
23 government, state, regional, or local governments, educational
24 institutions, private sources, or other sources;

1 (4) proceeds from the sale of maps, data,
2 publications, and other items; and

3 (5) interest earned on the investment of money in the
4 account and depository interest allocable to the account.

5 (b) The account may be appropriated only to the board to:

6 (1) develop, administer, and implement the strategic
7 mapping program;

8 (2) provide grants to political subdivisions for
9 projects related to the development, use, and dissemination of
10 digital, geospatial information; and

11 (3) administer, implement, and operate other programs
12 of the Texas Natural Resources Information System, including:

13 (A) the operation of a Texas-Mexico border region
14 information center for the purpose of implementing Section 16.021
15 (e)(5);

16 (B) the acquisition, storage, and distribution
17 of historical maps, photographs, and paper map products;

18 (C) the maintenance and enhancement of
19 information technology; and

20 (D) the production, storage, and distribution of
21 other digital base maps, as determined by the executive
22 administrator or a state agency that is a member of the Texas
23 Geographic Information Council.

24 (c) The board may invest, reinvest, and direct the
25 investment of any available money in the fund as provided by law for
26 the investment of money under Section 404.024, Government Code.

27 Sec. 16.024. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DIGITAL, GEOSPATIAL

1 INFORMATION PROJECTS. (a) A political subdivision seeking a grant
2 under Section 16.023 must file an application with the board.

3 (b) An application must be filed in the manner and form
4 required by board rules.

5 (c) In reviewing an application by a political subdivision
6 for a grant, the board shall consider:

7 (1) the degree to which the political subdivision has
8 used other available resources to finance the development, use, and
9 dissemination of digital, geospatial information;

10 (2) the willingness and ability of the political
11 subdivision to develop, use, and disseminate digital, geospatial
12 information; and

13 (3) the benefits that will be gained by making the
14 grant.

15 (d) The board may approve a grant to a political subdivision
16 only if the board finds that:

17 (1) the grant will supplement rather than replace
18 money of the political subdivision;

19 (2) the public interest is served by providing the
20 grant; and

21 (3) the grant will further the state's ability to
22 gather, develop, use, and disseminate digital, geospatial
23 information.

24 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.