

BILL ANALYSIS

H.B. 2179
By: Olivo
Natural Resources
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The Sienna Plantation Municipal Utility District No. 4 lies within the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the city of Missouri City and in Fort Bend County. Currently, the district provides water, sewer, drainage, and recreational facilities to land located within its boundaries.

H.B. 2179 grants Sienna Plantation Municipal Utility District No. 4 the power to undertake and finance certain road projects.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

H.B. 2179 amends the Special District Local Laws Code to set forth standard language to establish the Sienna Plantation Municipal Utility District No. 4 in Fort Bend County as a municipal utility district as provided under the Texas Constitution. The bill sets forth general provisions for the nature and purposes of the district, the powers and duties of the district, including the power to undertake certain road projects, and the road standards and requirements of such projects.

H.B. 2179 sets forth general financial provisions authorizing the district to issue bonds or other obligations payable wholly or in part from property tax revenue, impact fees, revenue, contract payments, grants, or other district money, or any combination of sources to pay for an authorized road project. The bill requires voter approval by a two-thirds majority of the district voters voting at an election before the district may issue bonds payable from property tax revenue; sets a cap on the total principal amount of bonds or other obligations issued or incurred to finance road projects when those bonds are backed by property tax revenue; and authorizes the district to impose a continuing annual property tax for bond payments while all or any part of a bond is outstanding.

H.B. 2179 specifies that the district retains all the rights, powers, privileges, authority, duties, and functions that it had prior to the effective date of this bill. The bill defines "district."

EFFECTIVE DATE

On passage, or, if the act does not receive the necessary vote, the act takes effect September 1, 2009.