

1-1 By: Lucio III, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Hegar) H.B. No. 3543  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 5, 2009;  
1-3 May 6, 2009, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural  
1-4 Resources; May 12, 2009, reported favorably by the following vote:  
1-5 Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 12, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the creation of a Don't Mess with Texas Water program to  
1-9 prevent illegal dumping that affects the surface waters of this  
1-10 state.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 26, Water Code, is amended  
1-13 by adding Section 26.053 to read as follows:

1-14 Sec. 26.053. DON'T MESS WITH TEXAS WATER PROGRAM. (a) The  
1-15 commission by rule shall establish a program to prevent illegal  
1-16 dumping that affects the surface waters of this state by placing  
1-17 signs on major highway water crossings that notify drivers of a  
1-18 toll-free number to call to report illegal dumping.

1-19 (b) The commission shall establish a toll-free number  
1-20 hotline that will forward calls to the appropriate law enforcement  
1-21 agency.

1-22 (c) A local government may work with the commission to  
1-23 participate in the program. A local government that participates  
1-24 in the program may contribute to the cost of operating the toll-free  
1-25 number hotline.

1-26 (d) The Texas Department of Transportation shall cooperate  
1-27 with the commission in the placement of signs described by  
1-28 Subsection (a).

1-29 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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