

By: Hegar

S.B. No. 844

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the powers and duties of the Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 194; providing authority to impose a tax and issue bonds.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle F, Title 6, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding Chapter 8317 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 8317. FORT BEND COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 194

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 8317.001. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "district" means the Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 194.

Sec. 8317.002. NATURE AND PURPOSES OF DISTRICT. (a) The district is a municipal utility district created under and essential to accomplish the purposes of Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution.

(b) The district is essential to accomplish the purposes of Section 52, Article III, Texas Constitution, that relate to the construction, acquisition, or improvement of macadamized, graveled, or paved roads described by Section 54.234, Water Code, or improvements, including storm drainage, in aid of those roads.

[Sections 8317.003-8317.050 reserved for expansion]

SUBCHAPTER B. POWERS AND DUTIES

Sec. 8317.051. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES. The district has the powers and duties necessary to accomplish the purposes

1 described by Section 8317.002.

2 Sec. 8317.052. MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT POWERS AND  
3 DUTIES. The district has the powers and duties provided by the  
4 general law of this state, including Chapters 49 and 54, Water Code,  
5 applicable to municipal utility districts created under Section 59,  
6 Article XVI, Texas Constitution.

7 Sec. 8317.053. AUTHORITY FOR ROAD PROJECTS. (a) Under  
8 Section 52, Article III, Texas Constitution, the district may  
9 design, acquire, construct, finance, issue bonds for, improve, and  
10 convey to this state, a county, or a municipality for operation and  
11 maintenance macadamized, graveled, or paved roads described by  
12 Section 54.234, Water Code, or improvements, including storm  
13 drainage, in aid of those roads.

14 (b) The district may exercise the powers provided by this  
15 section without submitting a petition to or obtaining approval from  
16 the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality as required by  
17 Section 54.234, Water Code.

18 Sec. 8317.054. APPROVAL OF ROAD PROJECT. (a) The district  
19 may not undertake a road project authorized by Section 8317.053  
20 unless:

21 (1) each municipality or county that will operate and  
22 maintain the road has approved the plans and specifications of the  
23 road project, if a municipality or county will operate and maintain  
24 the road; or

25 (2) the Texas Transportation Commission has approved  
26 the plans and specifications of the road project, if the state will  
27 operate and maintain the road.

1       (b) Except as provided by Subsection (a), the district is  
2 not required to obtain approval from the Texas Transportation  
3 Commission to design, acquire, construct, finance, issue bonds for,  
4 improve, or convey a road project.

5           [Sections 8317.055-8317.100 reserved for expansion]

6           SUBCHAPTER C. BONDS AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS

7       Sec. 8317.101. AUTHORITY TO ISSUE BONDS AND OTHER  
8 OBLIGATIONS FOR ROAD PROJECTS. (a) The district may issue bonds or  
9 other obligations payable wholly or partly from ad valorem taxes,  
10 impact fees, revenue, contract payments, grants, or other district  
11 money, or any combination of those sources, to pay for a road  
12 project authorized by Section 8317.053.

13       (b) The district may not issue bonds payable from ad valorem  
14 taxes to finance a road project unless the issuance is approved by a  
15 vote of a two-thirds majority of the district voters voting at an  
16 election held for that purpose.

17       (c) At the time of issuance, the total principal amount of  
18 bonds or other obligations issued or incurred to finance road  
19 projects and payable from ad valorem taxes may not exceed  
20 one-fourth of the assessed value of the real property in the  
21 district.

22       Sec. 8317.102. TAXES FOR BONDS. At the time the district  
23 issues bonds payable wholly or partly from ad valorem taxes, the  
24 district shall provide for the annual imposition of a continuing  
25 direct ad valorem tax, without limit as to rate or amount, while all  
26 or part of the bonds are outstanding as required and in the manner  
27 provided by Sections 54.601 and 54.602, Water Code.

1           SECTION 2. The Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District  
2 No. 194 retains all the rights, powers, privileges, authority,  
3 duties, and functions that it had before the effective date of this  
4 Act.

5           SECTION 3. (a) The legal notice of the intention to  
6 introduce this Act, setting forth the general substance of this  
7 Act, has been published as provided by law, and the notice and a  
8 copy of this Act have been furnished to all persons, agencies,  
9 officials, or entities to which they are required to be furnished  
10 under Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, and Chapter 313,  
11 Government Code.

12           (b) The governor, one of the required recipients, has  
13 submitted the notice and Act to the Texas Commission on  
14 Environmental Quality.

15           (c) The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has filed  
16 its recommendations relating to this Act with the governor, the  
17 lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of  
18 representatives within the required time.

19           (d) All requirements of the constitution and laws of this  
20 state and the rules and procedures of the legislature with respect  
21 to the notice, introduction, and passage of this Act are fulfilled  
22 and accomplished.

23           SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
25 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
26 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
27 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.