

By: King of Zavala

H.B. No. 2420

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to exemptions from permitting by groundwater conservation districts of the drilling and operation of certain water wells.

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

SECTION 1. Section 36.117(b), Water Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) A district may not require any permit issued by the district for:

(1) a well used solely for domestic use or for providing water for livestock or poultry, if the well is:

(A) located on a tract of land larger than 10 acres; and

(B) [~~that is either~~] drilled, completed, or equipped so that it is incapable of producing more than 25,000 gallons of groundwater a day;

(2) the drilling of a water well used solely to supply water for a rig that is actively engaged in drilling or exploration operations for an oil or gas well permitted by the Railroad Commission of Texas provided that the person holding the permit is responsible for drilling and operating the water well and the well is located on the same lease or field associated with the drilling rig; or

(3) the drilling of a water well authorized under a permit issued by the Railroad Commission of Texas under Chapter

1 134, Natural Resources Code, or for production from such a well to  
2 the extent the withdrawals are required for mining activities  
3 regardless of any subsequent use of the water.

4 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.