

By: Martinez Fischer

H.B. No. 3193

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the applicability of the general law governing
3 groundwater conservation districts to the management of brackish
4 groundwater.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 36.001, Water Code, is amended by
7 amending Subdivision (5) and adding Subdivision (30) to read as
8 follows:

9 (5) "Groundwater" means water percolating below the
10 surface of the earth. The term does not include brackish
11 groundwater.

12 (30) "Brackish groundwater" means groundwater that
13 has a salinity of more than 1,000 milligrams per liter but not more
14 than 35,000 milligrams per liter.

15 SECTION 2. Section 36.117, Water Code, is amended by
16 amending Subsection (l) and adding Subsection (m) to read as
17 follows:

18 (l) Except as provided by Subsection (m), this [~~This~~]
19 chapter applies to water wells, including water wells used to
20 supply water for activities related to the exploration or
21 production of hydrocarbons or minerals. This chapter does not
22 apply to production or injection wells drilled for oil, gas,
23 sulphur, uranium, or brine, or for core tests, or for injection of
24 gas, saltwater, or other fluids, under permits issued by the

1 Railroad Commission of Texas.

2 (m) This chapter does not apply to wells used to withdraw
3 brackish groundwater.

4 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.