

1-1 By: Estes S.B. No. 691  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 14, 2011;  
1-3 February 23, 2011, read first time and referred to Committee on  
1-4 Natural Resources; March 23, 2011, reported favorably by the  
1-5 following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; March 23, 2011, sent to printer.)

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

1-8 relating to the exemption from permitting by groundwater  
1-9 conservation districts for certain water wells used for domestic,  
1-10 livestock, and poultry watering purposes.

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

1-12 SECTION 1. Subsection (b), Section 36.117, Water Code, is  
1-13 amended to read as follows:

1-14 (b) A district may not require any permit issued by the  
1-15 district for:

1-16 (1) a well used solely for domestic use, or for  
1-17 providing water for livestock or poultry, if the well is:

1-18 (A) located on a tract of land larger than 10  
1-19 acres; and

1-20 (B) [~~that is~~] either drilled, completed, or  
1-21 equipped so that it is incapable of producing more than 25,000  
1-22 gallons of groundwater a day;

1-23 (2) the drilling of a water well used solely to supply  
1-24 water for a rig that is actively engaged in drilling or exploration  
1-25 operations for an oil or gas well permitted by the Railroad  
1-26 Commission of Texas provided that the person holding the permit is  
1-27 responsible for drilling and operating the water well and the well  
1-28 is located on the same lease or field associated with the drilling  
1-29 rig; or

1-30 (3) the drilling of a water well authorized under a  
1-31 permit issued by the Railroad Commission of Texas under Chapter  
1-32 134, Natural Resources Code, or for production from such a well to  
1-33 the extent the withdrawals are required for mining activities  
1-34 regardless of any subsequent use of the water.

1-35 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

1-36 \* \* \* \* \*