

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 82ND LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 18, 2011

TO: Honorable Allan Ritter, Chair, House Committee on Natural Resources

FROM: John S O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB1625 by Hegar (Relating to the administration, powers, duties, and operation of the Edwards Aquifer Authority.), **As Engrossed**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill makes conforming and clarifying changes to the Edwards Aquifer Authority's (EAA) enabling legislation and the Water Code. The bill adds procedures for EAA contested case hearings, request for rehearing, and board findings and conclusions. The bill removes administrative fee caps and requires administrative fees set by EAA. The bill abolishes the Edwards Aquifer Legislative Oversight Committee, a board comprised of three members of the Senate, appointed by the Lieutenant Governor, and three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker, and charged with overseeing water pollution control activities in the Edwards region, the activities of the Edwards Aquifer Authority, the activities of the South Central Texas Water Advisory Committee, the activities of soil and water conservation districts and river authorities in the Edwards Aquifer area that affect management of the aquifer, and compliance with federal law with respect to endangered species and Edwards Aquifer groundwater management.

Passage of the bill is not expected to have a significant impact on the workload of any state agencies.

Local Government Impact

Because the bill would not have statewide impact on units of local government of the same type or class, no comment from this office is required by the rules of the House/Senate as to its probable fiscal implication on units of local government.

Source Agencies: 452 Department of Licensing and Regulation, 580 Water Development Board, 582 Commission on Environmental Quality

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