

By: Lucio III

H.B. No. 857

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the frequency of water audits by certain retail public  
3 utilities.

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

5 SECTION 1. Sections 16.0121(b), (c), and (f), Water Code,  
6 are amended to read as follows:

7 (b) A [~~Except as provided by Subsection (b-1), a~~] retail  
8 public utility providing potable water [~~that receives from the~~  
9 ~~board financial assistance~~] shall perform and file with the board  
10 an annual water audit computing the utility's system water loss  
11 during the preceding year.

12 (c) The board shall develop appropriate methodologies and  
13 submission dates for a water audit required under Subsection (b)  
14 [~~or (b-1)~~] for the following categories of retail public utilities:

15 (1) retail public utilities serving populations of  
16 100,000 or more;

17 (2) retail public utilities serving populations of  
18 50,000 or more but less than 100,000;

19 (3) retail public utilities serving populations of  
20 more than 10,000 but less than 50,000; and

21 (4) retail public utilities serving populations of  
22 10,000 or less.

23 (f) The board shall compile the information included in the  
24 water audits required by Subsection [~~Subsections~~] (b) [~~and (b-1)~~]

1 according to category of retail public utility and according to  
2 regional water planning area. The regional planning group for a  
3 regional planning area shall use the information to identify  
4 appropriate water management strategies in the development of a  
5 regional water plan under Section 16.053.

6 SECTION 2. Section 16.0121(b-1), Water Code, is repealed.

7 SECTION 3. (a) The changes in law made by this Act do not  
8 affect the date on which a retail public utility subject to Section  
9 2, Chapter 1041 (H.B. 3090), Acts of the 82nd Legislature, Regular  
10 Session, 2011, is required to submit an annual water audit required  
11 by Section 16.0121, Water Code.

12 (b) Not later than May 1, 2015, a retail public utility  
13 that, immediately before the effective date of this Act, is subject  
14 to Section 16.0121(b-1), Water Code, shall submit its initial  
15 annual water audit required by Section 16.0121, Water Code, as  
16 amended by this Act. The initial water audit shall compute the  
17 utility's most recent annual system water loss.

18 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.