

1-1 By: Larson, Villalba (Senate Sponsor - Uresti) H.B. No. 2133
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 10, 2013;
 1-3 May 10, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural
 1-4 Resources; May 22, 2013, reported adversely, with favorable
 1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0;
 1-6 May 22, 2013, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11			X	
1-12			X	
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15			X	
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18	X			
1-19	X			

1-20 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 2133 By: Uresti

1-21 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-22 AN ACT

1-23 relating to the public policy for the use of innovative and
 1-24 alternative water treatment technologies for water development
 1-25 purposes and to the establishment of the Texas Center for
 1-26 Innovative Desalination Technology.

1-27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-28 SECTION 1. Section 1.003, Water Code, is amended to read as
 1-29 follows:

1-30 Sec. 1.003. PUBLIC POLICY. It is the public policy of the
 1-31 state to provide for the conservation and development of the
 1-32 state's natural resources, including:

1-33 (1) the control, storage, preservation, and
 1-34 distribution of the state's storm and floodwaters and the waters of
 1-35 its rivers and streams for irrigation, power, and other useful
 1-36 purposes;

1-37 (2) the reclamation and irrigation of the state's
 1-38 arid, semiarid, and other land needing irrigation;

1-39 (3) the reclamation and drainage of the state's
 1-40 overflowed land and other land needing drainage;

1-41 (4) the conservation and development of its forest,
 1-42 water, and hydroelectric power;

1-43 (5) the navigation of the state's inland and coastal
 1-44 waters;

1-45 (6) the maintenance of a proper ecological environment
 1-46 of the bays and estuaries of Texas and the health of related living
 1-47 marine resources;

1-48 (7) the voluntary stewardship of public and private
 1-49 lands to benefit waters of the state; ~~and~~

1-50 (8) the promotion of rainwater harvesting for potable
 1-51 and nonpotable purposes at public and private facilities in this
 1-52 state, including residential, commercial, and industrial
 1-53 buildings;

1-54 (9) the facilitation of the efficient and effective
 1-55 use of innovative and alternative water treatment technologies
 1-56 whenever possible to meet the natural resource needs of this state;
 1-57 and

1-58 (10) the promotion of direct reuse of reclaimed water
 1-59 for nonpotable purposes whenever possible to enhance and preserve
 1-60 the state's freshwater supply.

2-1 SECTION 2. Chapter 111, Education Code, is amended by
2-2 adding Subchapter J to read as follows:

2-3 SUBCHAPTER J. TEXAS CENTER FOR INNOVATIVE
2-4 DESALINATION TECHNOLOGY

2-5 Sec. 111.131. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

2-6 (1) "Boards" means the board of regents of the
2-7 University of Houston System and the board of regents of The
2-8 University of Texas System.

2-9 (2) "Center" means the Texas Center for Innovative
2-10 Desalination Technology established under this subchapter.

2-11 Sec. 111.132. ESTABLISHMENT. (a) The Texas Center for
2-12 Innovative Desalination Technology is established as a partnership
2-13 between the University of Houston, The University of Texas at
2-14 Brownsville, and The University of Texas at El Paso.

2-15 (b) The organization, control, and management of the center
2-16 are vested in the boards, and the respective institutions shall
2-17 execute a memorandum of understanding for that purpose.

2-18 (c) The center shall be hosted by the University of
2-19 Houston's Cullen College of Engineering, The University of Texas at
2-20 Brownsville's College of Science, Mathematics, and Technology, and
2-21 The University of Texas at El Paso's Center for Inland Desalination
2-22 Systems. Participation in the center's activities shall be open to
2-23 any faculty or staff member of each host university who is an active
2-24 researcher in the field of water desalination, engineering,
2-25 hydrology, biology, water supply development, or energy
2-26 efficiency, or in another relevant field as determined by the
2-27 boards.

2-28 Sec. 111.133. PURPOSE. The center is created to:

2-29 (1) promote interdisciplinary research, education,
2-30 and training for the development of state-of-the-art products,
2-31 materials, systems, and technologies designed for the desalination
2-32 of seawater from the Gulf of Mexico and brackish water within
2-33 surface and groundwater resources throughout the state; and

2-34 (2) develop cost-effective, energy-efficient, and
2-35 environmentally sound water desalination, brine disposal, and
2-36 water conveyance technologies that can enhance the potential for
2-37 desalinated water to contribute toward the state's long-term water
2-38 portfolio.

2-39 Sec. 111.134. POWERS AND DUTIES. The center shall:

2-40 (1) collaborate with appropriate international,
2-41 federal, state, and local agencies and private business or
2-42 nonprofit entities as necessary to develop innovative desalination
2-43 technologies;

2-44 (2) research and develop innovative seawater and
2-45 brackish water desalination technologies, including pretreatment
2-46 technologies and improvements, that are energy efficient and cost
2-47 effective, minimize environmental impacts, and offer long-term
2-48 water supply solutions for the state;

2-49 (3) research and develop brine disposal and reuse
2-50 methods and technologies;

2-51 (4) research and develop water conveyance systems and
2-52 technologies that may be used to transport desalinated water to
2-53 target use populations;

2-54 (5) develop test facilities for evaluating the
2-55 performance of new products, materials, or techniques;

2-56 (6) develop specifications and standards for products
2-57 used for desalinating water, conveying water, and disposing of
2-58 brine;

2-59 (7) provide public information, education, and
2-60 outreach regarding desalination technologies and appropriate uses
2-61 and conservation methods for desalinated water; and

2-62 (8) provide data, recommendations, and any other
2-63 information necessary relating to desalination for local,
2-64 regional, or statewide water planning programs and processes.

2-65 Sec. 111.135. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER ENTITIES. The
2-66 University of Houston, The University of Texas at Brownsville, and
2-67 The University of Texas at El Paso shall encourage public and
2-68 private entities to participate in or support the operation of the
2-69 center and may enter into an agreement with any public or private

3-1 entity for that purpose. An agreement may allow the center to
3-2 provide information, services, or other assistance to an entity in
3-3 exchange for the entity's participation or support.

3-4 Sec. 111.136. GIFTS AND GRANTS. The boards may solicit,
3-5 accept, and administer gifts and grants from any public or private
3-6 source for the purposes of the center.

3-7 Sec. 111.137. PERSONNEL. The boards may employ personnel
3-8 for the center as necessary.

3-9 Sec. 111.138. EXPIRATION. This subchapter expires
3-10 September 1, 2023.

3-11 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

3-12 * * * * *