

By: Keffer

H.B. No. 2362

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the audit and review of river authorities.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter G, Chapter 49, Water Code, is amended by adding Section 49.1991 to read as follows:

Sec. 49.1991. AUDIT AND REVIEW OF RIVER AUTHORITIES. (a) A district that is a river authority is subject to:

(1) an economy and efficiency audit by the state auditor's office; and

(2) an efficiency review by the Legislative Budget Board.

(b) The state auditor's participation under this section is subject to approval by the legislative audit committee for inclusion in the audit plan under Section 321.013(c), Government Code.

SECTION 2. Section 321.013(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The State Auditor shall conduct audits of all departments, including institutions of higher education, and of river authorities, as specified in the audit plan. At the direction of the committee, the State Auditor shall conduct an audit or investigation of any entity receiving funds from the state.

SECTION 3. Chapter 321, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 321.0139 to read as follows:

1 Sec. 321.0139. ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY AUDIT OF RIVER
2 AUTHORITIES. (a) At a reasonable time in advance of an economy and
3 efficiency audit of a river authority, the state auditor shall
4 provide the governing body of the authority with written
5 information relating to the procedures for and scope of the audit.
6 The state auditor shall include in the materials information
7 describing:

8 (1) how the appropriate representatives of the
9 authority may participate in the audit planning process; and

10 (2) how the authority may request information or
11 assistance in preparing for the audit from the state auditor.

12 (b) The state auditor shall seek the recommendations of the
13 Legislative Budget Board in preparing materials to be provided
14 under Subsection (a).

15 SECTION 4. Chapter 322, Government Code, is amended by
16 adding Section 322.0171 to read as follows:

17 Sec. 322.0171. EFFICIENCY REVIEW OF RIVER AUTHORITIES. (a)
18 The board periodically may review and analyze the effectiveness and
19 efficiency of the policies, management, fiscal affairs, and
20 operations of a river authority.

21 (b) The board shall report the findings of a review and
22 analysis to the governor and the legislature.

23 (c) Until the board has completed a review and analysis
24 under this section, all information, documentary or otherwise,
25 prepared or maintained in conducting the review and analysis or
26 preparing the review report, including intra-agency and
27 interagency communications and drafts of the review report or

1 portions of those drafts, is excepted from required public
2 disclosure as audit working papers under Section 552.116. This
3 subsection does not affect whether information described by this
4 subsection is confidential or excepted from required public
5 disclosure under a law other than Section 552.116.

6 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.