

By: Hegar, Van de Putte,
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S.B. No. 589

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the designation of certain river or stream segments as
3 being of unique ecological value.

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

5 SECTION 1. DEFINITION. In this Act, "Region L" means
6 Regional Water Planning Area L designated in accordance with
7 Section 16.053, Water Code, as the area's boundaries existed on
8 September 1, 2013.

9 SECTION 2. DESIGNATION OF RIVER OR STREAM SEGMENTS OF
10 UNIQUE ECOLOGICAL VALUE. The legislature, as authorized by
11 Subsection (f), Section 16.051, Water Code, designates as being of
12 unique ecological value the following river or stream segments:

13 (1) the Nueces River from the northern boundary of
14 Region L to United States Geological Survey gauge number 08190000;

15 (2) the Frio River from the northern boundary of
16 Region L to United States Geological Survey gauge number 08195000;

17 (3) the Sabinal River from the northern boundary of
18 Region L to its intersection with State Highway 187;

19 (4) the San Marcos River from a point 0.4 miles
20 upstream from its intersection with State Highway Loop 82 to its
21 intersection with Interstate Highway 35; and

22 (5) the Comal River from its intersection with East
23 Klingemann Street in New Braunfels to its confluence with the

1 Guadalupe River.

2 SECTION 3. EFFECT OF DESIGNATION. The designation of a
3 river or stream segment as being of unique ecological value under
4 Section 2 of this Act:

5 (1) means only that a state agency or political
6 subdivision of the state may not finance the actual construction of
7 a reservoir in the designated segment;

8 (2) does not affect the ability of a state agency or
9 political subdivision of the state to construct, operate, maintain,
10 or replace a weir, a water diversion, flood control, drainage, or
11 water supply system, or a recreational facility in the designated
12 segment;

13 (3) does not prohibit the permitting, financing,
14 construction, operation, maintenance, or replacement of any water
15 management strategy to meet projected water supply needs
16 recommended in, or designated as an alternative in, the 2011
17 Regional Water Plan for Region L; and

18 (4) does not alter any existing property right of an
19 affected landowner.

20 SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September
21 1, 2013.