By: Estes, Paxton S.B. No. 1212

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the applicability of certain provisions concerning the transfer of exotic species to certain transfers of water that supply populous areas.

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

SECTION 1. Section 66.007, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by adding Subsection (m) to read as follows:

(m) A water transfer described by this subsection is not a violation of this section. The department may not require a permit under this section for a water transfer described by this subsection. This subsection applies to a water transfer by a district or authority created under Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, that:

(1) is initially conveyed by a water intake structure that is:

(A) shared by at least two districts or authorities; and

(B) located on a reservoir situated on the boundary of this state and another state;

(2) uses a closed conveyance system approved by the United States Army Corps of Engineers in accordance with an invasive species management plan approved by the United States Army Corps of Engineers; and

(3) contributes to a water supply that serves at least

1.5 million people, all of whom reside in an area that:

(A) borders another state;

(B) contains at least 10 contiguous counties;

(C) contains at least one county with a population of more than one million; and

(D) is adjacent to a county with a population of more than one million.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.