

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 83RD LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 19, 2013

TO: Honorable Allan Ritter, Chair, House Committee on Natural Resources

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB1776** by Schaefer (Relating to the definition of "drought" for the purposes of emergency orders concerning water rights issued by the executive director of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the definition of "drought" for the purposes of emergency orders for water rights issued by the Executive Director of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). For purposes of Water Code, Section 11.053, the bill would define "drought" as "exceptional" or "D4" by the National Drought Mitigation Center, in accordance with the center's Drought Severity Classification scheme.

Passage of the bill is not expected to have a significant impact on the TCEQ.

Local Government Impact

The bill could affect the amount of water available to local governments during times of low streamflows. However, passage of the bill is not expected to have a direct fiscal impact on local governments.

Source Agencies: 582 Commission on Environmental Quality

LBB Staff: UP, SZ, TL