

By: Taylor of Galveston

S.B. No. 1489

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1.02, Chapter 409, Acts of the 61st Legislature, Regular Session, 1969, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1.02. FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF POLICY. It is hereby found and declared that the quality of waters in Chambers, Galveston, and Harris Counties is materially affected by the disposal of wastes throughout those counties; that regional approaches to studying water pollution in these counties, to planning corrective and preventive measures, to providing coordinated facilities for waste disposal, and to regulating waste disposal would be far more effective than efforts on a county-wide, city-wide, or smaller scale; that solid wastes, as well as other kinds of waste, may impair water quality by seepage, drainage, and otherwise; that creation of the Gulf Coast ~~[Waste Disposal]~~ Authority would advance the established policy of the state to maintain the quality of the waters in the state consistent with the public health and public enjoyment thereof, the propagation and protection of terrestrial and aquatic life, the operation of existing industries, and the economic development of the state; and that impending shortage of water in the district for beneficial uses requires that all reasonable measures be taken to prevent and abate water pollution, and to reclaim polluted water for beneficial

1 uses.

2 SECTION 2. Section 1.03(a)(1), Chapter 409, Acts of the
3 61st Legislature, Regular Session, 1969, is amended to read as
4 follows:

5 (1) "Authority" means the Gulf Coast [~~Waste Disposal~~]
6 Authority created by this Act.

7 SECTION 3. Section 2.01, Chapter 409, Acts of the 61st
8 Legislature, Regular Session, 1969, is amended to read as follows:

9 Section 2.01. CREATION OF AUTHORITY. There is hereby
10 created, pursuant to Article XVI, Section 59, of the Texas
11 Constitution, a conservation and reclamation district to be known
12 as the Gulf Coast [~~Waste Disposal~~] Authority, which shall be a
13 governmental agency and body politic and corporate of the State of
14 Texas. A confirmation election shall not be necessary.

15 SECTION 4. Chapter 409, Acts of the 61st Legislature,
16 Regular Session, 1969, is amended by adding Section 2.015 to read as
17 follows:

18 Sec. 2.015. NAME CHANGE. A reference in law to the Gulf
19 Coast Waste Disposal Authority means the Gulf Coast Authority.

20 SECTION 5. Section 8104.006, Special District Local Laws
21 Code, is amended to read as follows:

22 Sec. 8104.006. RELATIONSHIP TO GULF COAST [~~WASTE DISPOSAL~~]
23 AUTHORITY. The rights, powers, privileges, and functions granted
24 to the authority under this chapter are subject to the powers
25 granted to the Gulf Coast [~~Waste Disposal~~] Authority in Chapter
26 409, Acts of the 61st Legislature, Regular Session, 1969 (Article
27 7621d-2, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), to provide disposal

1 systems.

2 SECTION 6. Section 8104.205, Special District Local Laws
3 Code, is amended to read as follows:

4 Sec. 8104.205. CONSENT REQUIRED FOR WASTE TREATMENT AND
5 DISPOSAL FACILITIES. Before acquiring or constructing a waste
6 treatment or disposal facility, the authority must obtain the
7 consent of the:

8 (1) Gulf Coast [~~Waste Disposal~~] Authority; or

9 (2) Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, if the
10 consent of the Gulf Coast [~~Waste Disposal~~] Authority is
11 unreasonably withheld or delayed.

12 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.