

1-1 By: Rodríguez S.B. No. 1597
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 9, 2017; March 21, 2017, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Agriculture, Water & Rural
 1-4 Affairs; April 26, 2017, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-5 Yeas 5, Nays 0; April 26, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

| | Yea | Nay | Absent | PNV |
|------|-----|-----|--------|-----|
| 1-7 | | | | |
| 1-8 | X | | | |
| 1-9 | X | | | |
| 1-10 | X | | | |
| 1-11 | X | | | |
| 1-12 | | | X | |
| 1-13 | X | | | |
| 1-14 | | | X | |

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to a requirement that the General Land Office conduct an
 1-18 evaluation and submit a report regarding the use of wind and solar
 1-19 power to desalinate brackish groundwater on real property owned by
 1-20 the state.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. DEFINITION. In this Act, "land office" means the
 1-23 General Land Office.

1-24 SECTION 2. EVALUATION. (a) The land office shall conduct
 1-25 an evaluation to identify:

1-26 (1) the economic potential for using wind and solar
 1-27 power to desalinate brackish groundwater on real property owned by
 1-28 the state; and

1-29 (2) possible pilot sites that have the best potential
 1-30 for the implementation of a pilot program for the purpose described
 1-31 by Subdivision (1) of this subsection.

1-32 (b) In conducting the evaluation, the land office shall:

1-33 (1) use information developed as a result of the study
 1-34 conducted under Chapter 620 (S.B. 991), Acts of the 84th
 1-35 Legislature, Regular Session, 2015; and

1-36 (2) consult with representatives of the private sector
 1-37 with expertise in the desalination of brackish groundwater and the
 1-38 generation of wind and solar power.

1-39 (c) In conducting the evaluation, the land office may:

1-40 (1) request data from any state agency; and

1-41 (2) coordinate with a research division of a
 1-42 university.

1-43 (d) An agency or a research division that receives a request
 1-44 under Subsection (c) of this section shall provide the requested
 1-45 data or assistance.

1-46 (e) The evaluation shall include:

1-47 (1) recommendations for one or more possible pilot
 1-48 sites for the implementation of a pilot program for using wind and
 1-49 solar power to desalinate brackish groundwater on real property
 1-50 owned by the state;

1-51 (2) an evaluation of opportunities for the state to
 1-52 generate revenue from using wind and solar power for the purpose
 1-53 described by Subdivision (1) of this subsection; and

1-54 (3) proposed strategies for using wind and solar power
 1-55 for the purpose described by Subdivision (1) of this subsection in
 1-56 an economically viable way.

1-57 SECTION 3. REPORT. (a) Not later than December 31, 2018,
 1-58 the land office shall report the results of the evaluation
 1-59 conducted under this Act to the governor and the legislature.

1-60 (b) The report described by this section may not disclose
 1-61 information that is excepted from the requirements of Section

2-1 [552.021](#), Government Code.

2-2 SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect
2-3 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members
2-4 elected to each house, as provided by Section [39](#), Article III, Texas
2-5 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for
2-6 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

2-7

* * * * *