

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 18, 2017

TO: Honorable Charles Perry, Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Water & Rural Affairs

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB31 by Larson (relating to the regulation of groundwater.), **Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Water Code relating to the regulation of groundwater. The bill specifies required information on a permit or permit amendment application. The bill would require groundwater districts to use the district rules in effect on the date of application for the districts decision to deny or grant the application.

A district may not adopt a moratorium on the issuance of a permit or permit amendment unless the district posts a notice, holds a hearing, and makes written findings supporting the moratorium. The imposed moratorium expires 90 days after issuance. The moratorium may not be extended.

The bill would repeal various sections of the Water Code.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies:

LBB Staff: UP, SZ, GG, BM