

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
86R7711 TSR-D

H.B. 1537
By: Shine; Buckley (Buckingham)
Water & Rural Affairs
5/2/2019
Engrossed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Elm Creek Watershed Authority is a water entity in Bell County that has mostly worked with flood prevention and management with Belton and Stillhouse Lakes. Elm Creek is a government entity and must resort to legislation to change bylaws.

H.B. 1537 would change the Elm Creek Watershed Authority's board elections to staggered, four-year terms. Elections would be held each odd-numbered year. H.B. 1537 also removes specific names of the board members from legislation.

H.B. 1537 amends current law relating to the terms and election of the members of the board of directors of the Elm Creek Watershed Authority.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 14, Chapter 273, Acts of the 55th Legislature, Regular Session, 1957, as follows:

Sec. 14. (a) Creates this subsection from existing text. Provides that the board of directors of the Elm Creek Watershed Authority (board; authority) is composed of eight persons who serve staggered, four-year terms, rather than requiring the board to be comprised of eight persons.

(b) Requires an election for directors of the board (director) to be held on the uniform election date in November of each odd-numbered year, rather than held on the second Tuesday in January of each year and as herein provided. Deletes existing text requiring certain listed persons to be directors and constitute the board. Deletes existing text relating to the election of successors and the terms of initial directors. Deletes existing text requiring four directors to be elected in each even-numbered year and four in each odd-numbered year.

(c) Creates this subsection from existing text and makes no further changes to this subsection.

SECTION 2. (a) Requires a director elected in May 2019 to serve until the director's successor has qualified following the directors' election held on the uniform election date in November 2023. Provides that a director elected on the uniform election date in November 2023 serves a four-year term.

(b) Requires a director elected in 2018 to serve until the director's successor has qualified following the directors' election held on the uniform election date in November 2021. Provides that a director elected to succeed that director serves a four-year term.

(c) Provides that this section expires September 1, 2024.

SECTION 3. Provides that all requirements of the constitution and the laws of this state and the rules and procedures of the legislature with respect to the notice, introduction, and passage of this Act are fulfilled and accomplished.

SECTION 4. Effective date: September 1, 2019.