H.B. No. 723

AN ACT

relating to a requirement that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality obtain or develop updated water availability models for certain river basins.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 16.012, Water Code, is amended by adding Subsection (h-1) to read as follows:

(h-1)  Not later than December 1, 2022, the commission shall obtain or develop updated water availability models for the Brazos River, Neches River, Red River, and Rio Grande river basins. The commission may collect data from all jurisdictions that allocate the waters of the rivers, including jurisdictions outside this state. This subsection expires September 1, 2023.

SECTION 2.  The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is required to implement a provision of this Act only if the legislature appropriates money specifically for that purpose. If the legislature does not appropriate money specifically for that purpose, the commission may, but is not required to, implement a provision of this Act using other appropriations available for that purpose.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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    President of the Senate Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 723 was passed by the House on April 10, 2019, by the following vote:  Yeas 145, Nays 1, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 723 on May 10, 2019, by the following vote:  Yeas 106, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 723 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 1, 2019, by the following vote:  Yeas 31, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

                 Date

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               Governor