86R20775 SLB-D

By:  Nevárez H.B. No. 3099

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to standards for water management in certain areas.

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

SECTION 1.  Title 2, Water Code, is amended by adding Subtitle G to read as follows:

SUBTITLE G. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

CHAPTER 39. STANDARDS FOR SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT IN CERTAIN AREAS

Sec. 39.0101.  STANDARDS FOR SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT IN CERTAIN AREAS. (a) This section applies to a county:

(1)  bordering the Rio Grande;

(2)  overlying the Edwards-Trinity Aquifer; and

(3)  with a population greater than 40,000.

(b)  The Texas Water Development Board in coordination with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the Parks and Wildlife Department shall adopt standards for water management by a conservation and reclamation district in a county to which this section applies.

(c)  Standards adopted under this section must address:

(1)  groundwater management; and

(2)  river and spring flow, including flow requirements for:

(A)  the Devils River;

(B)  the Pecos River; and

(C)  San Felipe Springs.

SECTION 2.  The Texas Water Development Board, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and Parks and Wildlife Department shall use existing funds to adopt standards as required by Section 39.0101, Water Code, as added by this Act.

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