

BILL ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 4616
By: Gates
Land & Resource Management
Committee Report (Substituted)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

It has been suggested that undeveloped land located within Fort Bend County would benefit from the creation of a municipal utility district. C.S.H.B. 4616 seeks to provide for the creation of such a district.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 4616 amends the Special District Local Laws Code to create the Fort Bend Municipal Utility District No. 246, subject to municipal consent and voter approval at a confirmation election. The bill grants the district the power to undertake certain road projects and authorizes the district, subject to certain requirements, to issue obligations and impose property, operation and maintenance, and contract taxes. The bill requires the district to maintain a website on which the board of directors of the district must make available certain tax and budget information. The bill expressly prohibits the district from exercising the power of eminent domain if the bill does not receive a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to each house.

EFFECTIVE DATE

On passage, or, if the bill does not receive the necessary vote, September 1, 2021.

COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL AND SUBSTITUTE

While C.S.H.B. 4616 may differ from the original in minor or nonsubstantive ways, the following summarizes the substantial differences between the introduced and committee substitute versions of the bill.

The substitute includes the following requirements, which were absent from the original:

- a requirement for the district to maintain a website; and
- a requirement for the board to make available on the district's website certain tax and budget information.