

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

C.S.H.B. 4623  
By: Leman  
Land & Resource Management  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

It has been suggested that undeveloped land located within Austin County would benefit from the creation of a municipal utility district. C.S.H.B. 4623 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. 4623 amends the Special District Local Laws Code to create the Austin County Municipal Utility District No. 1, subject to municipal consent and voter approval at a confirmation election. The bill grants the district the power to undertake certain road projects and provides for the designation of a board meeting location and the effect of annexation of all or any part of the district's territory by the City of Sealy. The bill authorizes the district, subject to certain requirements, to issue obligations and impose property, operation and maintenance, and contract taxes. 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. 4623 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 original provided for the appointment of the temporary board of directors of the district by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality through a petition process, whereas the substitute names the five individuals appointed to the temporary board of directors.