

By: Larson

H.B. No. 2652

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 2652:

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C.S.H.B. No. 2652

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to establishing an advisory board to study surface water
3 and groundwater interaction.

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

5 SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS. In this Act:

6 (1) "Advisory board" means the Surface Water and
7 Groundwater Interaction Advisory Board.

8 (2) "Development board" means the Texas Water
9 Development Board.

10 SECTION 2. SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER INTERACTION
11 ADVISORY BOARD ESTABLISHED. (a) The Surface Water and Groundwater
12 Interaction Advisory Board is established and consists of 12
13 persons as follows:

14 (1) the executive administrator of the development
15 board;

16 (2) one person to represent the interests of the Texas
17 Commission on Environmental Quality, recommended by the Texas
18 Commission on Environmental Quality and appointed jointly by the
19 chairs of the house natural resources committee and the senate
20 water and rural affairs committee;

21 (3) two persons to represent the interests of river
22 authorities, recommended jointly by the Texas Commission on
23 Environmental Quality and the Texas Water Development Board and
24 appointed jointly by the chairs of the house natural resources

1 committee and the senate water and rural affairs committee;

2 (4) two persons to represent the interests of
3 groundwater conservation districts, recommended jointly by the
4 Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the Texas Water
5 Development Board and appointed jointly by the chairs of the house
6 natural resources committee and the senate water and rural affairs
7 committee;

8 (5) two persons with academic or specialist knowledge
9 in the area of surface water and groundwater interaction, with one
10 appointed by the chair of the house natural resources committee and
11 another appointed by the chair of the senate water and rural affairs
12 committee;

13 (6) one person to represent environmental interests or
14 the interests relating to the interaction of surface water and
15 groundwater, recommended jointly by the Texas Commission on
16 Environmental Quality and the Texas Water Development Board and
17 appointed jointly by the chairs of the house natural resources
18 committee and the senate water and rural affairs committee;

19 (7) the chair of the house natural resources
20 committee;

21 (8) the chair of the senate water and rural affairs
22 committee; and

23 (9) one person from the office of the governor,
24 appointed by the governor.

25 (b) The executive administrator of the development board
26 serves as the chair of the advisory board.

27 SECTION 3. PUBLIC MEETING. The advisory board shall hold at

1 least one public meeting in order to accept comments from the public
2 on matters studied by the advisory board.

3 SECTION 4. SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER INTERACTION STUDY.

4 (a) The advisory board shall study:

5 (1) the extent to which surface water and groundwater
6 interact in this state;

7 (2) challenges arising in this state from the
8 interaction of surface water and groundwater; and

9 (3) approaches to mitigating challenges arising in
10 this state from the interaction of surface water and groundwater.

11 (b) In conducting the study under this section, the advisory
12 board shall consult with:

13 (1) the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality;

14 (2) groundwater conservation districts; and

15 (3) river authorities.

16 SECTION 5. STUDY REPORT; EXPIRATION OF ACT. (a) The
17 advisory board shall deliver to the governor, the lieutenant
18 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and each
19 member of the legislature a report on the determinations of the
20 advisory board based on the study conducted under Section 3 of this
21 Act not later than December 1, 2022. The advisory board shall
22 deliver to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of
23 the house of representatives, or a member of the legislature
24 related information on request.

25 (b) The advisory board is abolished and this Act expires
26 January 1, 2023.

27 SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect

1 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members
2 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas
3 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for
4 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2021.