88R5983 KBB-F

By:  Perry S.B. No. 296

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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-2) to read as follows:

(h-2)  Not later than December 1, 2026, the commission shall obtain or develop updated water availability models for the Guadalupe, Lavaca, Nueces, San Antonio, San Jacinto, and Trinity 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, 2027.

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, 2023.