

By: Martinez

H.B. No. 4818

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the provision of financial assistance by the Texas Water Development Board for certain projects.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 17, Water Code, is amended by amending Section 17.121 and adding Section 17.1215 to read as follows:

Sec. 17.121. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. The water supply account may be used by the board to provide financial assistance, including grants, to political subdivisions for the construction, acquisition, or improvement of water supply projects, including those projects initiated for the sole purpose of conservation as defined in Section 17.001(23)(B) of this code.

Sec. 17.1215. GRANT PROGRAM. (a) The board may provide grants under this subchapter to a political subdivision, including a drainage district established under Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, for the construction, acquisition, or improvement of water supply projects, including projects that contain a flood control component.

(b) The board shall adopt rules necessary to implement this section, including rules establishing eligibility requirements for the use of grants provided under this section. Eligibility requirements established under this section may not disqualify a drainage district from receiving a grant because the district does

1 not:

2           (1) have historical data about water use;

3           (2) provide retail water service to consumers; or

4           (3) have a certificate of convenience and necessity

5 under which it provides retail water or wastewater service.

6           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.