

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 53

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to financial assistance by the Texas Water Development Board for backup power generators in economically distressed areas for public water supply and sanitary sewer systems.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter K, Chapter 17, Water Code, is amended by adding Section 17.9227 to read as follows:

Sec. 17.9227. GENERATORS TO SUPPORT WATER SUPPLY AND SEWER SERVICE. (a) The legislature finds that it is in the public interest to use funds in the economically distressed areas account to provide financial assistance for the costs associated with backup power generators for facilities of public water supply and sanitary sewer systems.

(b) A political subdivision may use financial assistance to pay for the installation, maintenance, operation, and fueling of a backup power generator for a facility of a public water supply and sanitary sewer system.

(c) Assistance under this section shall only be provided to political subdivisions that demonstrate an inability to pay for the installation, maintenance, operation, and fueling of a backup power generator described by Subsection (b) in accordance with board rules. If the board determines that a political subdivision to which assistance has been provided is ineligible to receive the assistance, the board may seek reimbursement from the political

1 subdivision.

2 (d) The board shall adopt rules to implement this section.

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