

By: Perry

S.B. No. 296

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to a requirement that the Texas Commission on
3 Environmental Quality obtain or develop updated water availability
4 models for certain river basins.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 16.012, Water Code, is amended by adding
7 Subsection (h-2) to read as follows:

8 (h-2) Not later than December 1, 2026, the commission shall
9 obtain or develop updated water availability models for the
10 Guadalupe, Lavaca, Nueces, San Antonio, San Jacinto, and Trinity
11 River basins. The commission may collect data from all
12 jurisdictions that allocate the waters of the rivers, including
13 jurisdictions outside this state. This subsection expires
14 September 1, 2027.

15 SECTION 2. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is
16 required to implement a provision of this Act only if the
17 legislature appropriates money specifically for that purpose. If
18 the legislature does not appropriate money specifically for that
19 purpose, the commission may, but is not required to, implement a
20 provision of this Act using other appropriations available for that
21 purpose.

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