89R22448 JAM-D

By:  Gerdes H.B. No. 1523

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1523:

By:  Martinez C.S.H.B. No. 1523

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a prohibition on the authorization by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality of the use of a Class V injection well for certain aquifer storage and recovery projects.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter G, Chapter 27, Water Code, is amended by adding Section 27.1535 to read as follows:

Sec. 27.1535.  CERTAIN AUTHORIZATIONS PROHIBITED. (a) This section applies only to a Class V injection well located in any portion of the territory of a groundwater conservation district that is located wholly or partly in a county that:

(1)  has a population of more than 70,000 and less than 100,000 and contains a portion of the Colorado River; and

(2)  is adjacent to a county that has a population of one million or more.

(b)  The commission may not authorize the use of a Class V injection well for an aquifer storage and recovery project operated by:

(1)  a municipally owned utility that primarily provides water to a municipality that:

(A)  has a population of 750,000 or more; and

(B)  is located in a county adjacent to a county described by Subsection (a); or

(2)  a nonprofit entity that has partnered with a municipally owned utility to provide water to a municipality described by Subdivision (1).

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2025.