

By: Gerdes

H.B. No. 1523

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a restriction 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. RESTRICTION ON AUTHORIZATIONS OF USE OF CERTAIN CLASS V INJECTION WELLS. (a) This section applies only to a Class V injection well that is:

(1) located in any portion of the territory of a groundwater conservation district that is located wholly or partly in a county that:

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

(B) is adjacent to a county that has a population of one million or more; and

(2) used for an aquifer storage and recovery project operated by 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 Subdivision (1).

(b) As a condition of authorizing the use of a Class V

1 injection well for an aquifer storage and recovery project, the  
2 commission shall require that:

3 (1) the project withdraw no more water than is  
4 injected into the aquifer;

5 (2) the project establish monitoring wells;

6 (3) water quality testing be conducted in accordance  
7 with Section 27.156 and commission rules adopted under that  
8 section; and

9 (4) well monitoring data obtained under Subdivision  
10 (2) and water quality testing data obtained under Subdivision (3)  
11 be provided to the groundwater conservation district described by  
12 Subsection (a)(1).

13 (c) Before authorizing the use of a Class V injection well  
14 for an aquifer storage and recovery project, the commission shall  
15 hold a public meeting in the county in which the injection well is  
16 proposed to be located.

17 (d) The commission may not authorize the use of a Class V  
18 injection well for an aquifer storage and recovery project if the  
19 authorization does not include the terms provided by Subsection  
20 (b).

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