

1-1 By: Dean, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Hughes) H.B. No. 5659
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 15, 2025;
1-3 May 21, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Water,
1-4 Agriculture and Rural Affairs; May 23, 2025, reported adversely,
1-5 with favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7,
1-6 Nays 1; May 23, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-8	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-9	Perry	X		
1-10	Hancock	X		
1-11	Birdwell		X	
1-12	Blanco	X		
1-13	Gutierrez	X		
1-14	Hinojosa of Nueces	X		
1-15	Johnson		X	
1-16	Kolkhorst	X		
1-17	Sparks	X		

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 5659 By: Perry

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the procedural requirements applicable to interbasin
1-22 transfers of water involving the Northeast Texas Municipal Water
1-23 District.

1-24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-25 SECTION 1. Chapter 78, Acts of the 53rd Legislature,
1-26 Regular Session, 1953, is amended by adding Sections 17A and 17B to
1-27 read as follows:

1-28 Sec. 17A. (a) Before the District may enter into a contract
1-29 for an interbasin transfer of water or acquire a permit or other
1-30 authorization from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
1-31 for a proposed interbasin transfer, the Board of Directors shall
1-32 hold a public hearing on the proposed interbasin transfer.

1-33 (b) The Board of Directors shall provide any interested
1-34 person an opportunity to appear before the Board at the hearing and
1-35 speak on the proposed interbasin transfer.

1-36 (c) The Board of Directors shall provide notice of the
1-37 hearing in the manner provided by Section 49.063, Water Code, for a
1-38 meeting of the Board.

1-39 Sec. 17B. The District may enter into a contract or acquire
1-40 a permit or other authorization described by Section 17A of this Act
1-41 only if the contract or authorization is approved by a majority vote
1-42 of the governing bodies of a majority of the cities entitled to
1-43 appoint one or more directors under Section 3 or 6 of this Act.

1-44 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-45 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-46 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-47 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-48 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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