

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

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11			X	
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15		X		
1-16	X			
1-17	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.

1-49 \* \* \* \* \*