

By: Blanco  
(Villalobos)

S.B. No. 1268

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the review and updating by the Texas Water Development Board of guidance principles and rules related to certain plans adopted or approved by the board.

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

SECTION 1. Section 16.051, Water Code, is amended by amending Subsection (d) and adding Subsection (d-1) to read as follows:

(d) The board, in coordination with the commission, the Department of Agriculture, and the Parks and Wildlife Department, shall adopt by rule guidance principles for the state water plan which reflect the public interest of the entire state. When adopting guidance principles, due consideration shall be given to the construction and improvement of surface water resources and the application of principles that result in voluntary redistribution of water resources. The board shall review and update the guidance principles and any other rules related to the state water plan, with input from the commission, the Department of Agriculture, and the Parks and Wildlife Department, as necessary but at least every five years to coincide with the five-year cycle for adoption of a new water plan as described in Subsection (a).

(d-1) The requirement to review a rule not later than the fourth anniversary of the date on which the rule takes effect and every four years after that date under Section 2001.039(b),

1 Government Code, does not apply to a rule related to the state water  
2 plan adopted under this section.

3 SECTION 2. Section 16.053, Water Code, is amended by adding  
4 Subsections (f-1) and (f-2) to read as follows:

5 (f-1) The board shall review and update rules adopted under  
6 this section as necessary but at least every five years to coincide  
7 with the five-year cycle for adoption of a new water plan as  
8 described in Section 16.051.

9 (f-2) The requirement to review a rule not later than the  
10 fourth anniversary of the date on which the rule takes effect and  
11 every four years after that date under Section 2001.039(b),  
12 Government Code, does not apply to a rule adopted under this  
13 section.

14 SECTION 3. Section 16.061, Water Code, is amended by  
15 amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (c-1) to read as  
16 follows:

17 (c) The board, in coordination with the commission, the  
18 Department of Agriculture, the General Land Office, the Parks and  
19 Wildlife Department, the Texas Division of Emergency Management,  
20 and the State Soil and Water Conservation Board, shall adopt  
21 guidance principles for the state flood plan that reflect the  
22 public interest of the entire state. The board shall review and  
23 revise the guidance principles and any other rules related to the  
24 state flood plan, with input from the commission, the Department of  
25 Agriculture, the General Land Office, the Parks and Wildlife  
26 Department, the Texas Division of Emergency Management, and the  
27 State Soil and Water Conservation Board, as necessary and at least

every fifth year to coincide with the five-year cycle for adoption of a new state flood plan.

(c-1) The requirement to review a rule not later than the fourth anniversary of the date on which the rule takes effect and every four years after that date under Section 2001.039(b), Government Code, does not apply to a rule adopted under this section.

SECTION 4. Section 16.062, Water Code, is amended by adding Subsections (m) and (n) to read as follows:

(m) The board shall review and update rules adopted under this section as necessary but at least every five years to coincide with the five-year cycle for adoption of a new flood plan as described in Section 16.061.

(n) The requirement to review a rule not later than the fourth anniversary of the date on which the rule takes effect and every four years after that date under Section 2001.039(b), Government Code, does not apply to a rule adopted under this section.

SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.