

House Bill 5659
Senate Amendments
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

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

Sec. 17A. (a) Before the District may enter into a contract under Section 15 or 17 of this Act or acquire a water appropriation permit under Section 17 of this Act, the Board of Directors shall hold a public hearing on the proposed contract or permit acquisition.

(b) The Board of Directors shall provide any interested person an opportunity to appear before the Board at the hearing and speak on the proposed contract or permit acquisition.

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

Sec. 17B. The District may enter into a contract or acquire a permit described by Section 17A of this Act only if the contract or permit acquisition is approved by a majority vote of the governing body of each city that is entitled to appoint one or more directors under Section 3 or 6 of this Act.

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.

SENATE VERSION (IE)

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

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

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

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

Sec. 17B. The District may enter into a contract or acquire a permit or other authorization described by Section 17A of this Act only if the contract or authorization is approved by a majority vote of the governing bodies of at least five of the cities entitled to appoint one or more directors under Section 3 or 6 of this Act. [FA1]

SECTION 2. Same as House version.

CONFERENCE