

Chapter 609

H.B. No. 3185

AN ACT

relating to fees charged by the Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District; authorizing a fee.

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

SECTION 1. Section 8867.103, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(a) The district may assess fees under Section 36.122(e) or 36.205(c), Water Code, in an annual amount not to exceed:

(1) \$1 per acre-foot of water used for agricultural use; ~~or~~

(2) 17 cents per thousand gallons of water used for any other purpose; or

(3) notwithstanding any limitations on the amount of an export fee or surcharge authorized under Section 36.122(e), Water Code, 150 percent of the maximum commercial water rate charged by the City of Wichita Falls for groundwater exported from the district.

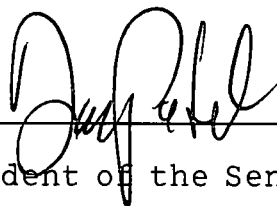
(c) The district may use funds obtained from an export fee imposed under Subsection (a)(3) only to enhance:

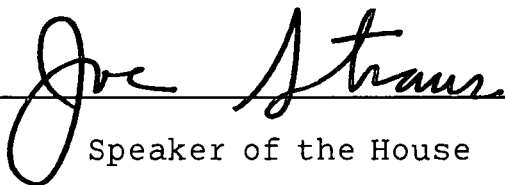
(1) aquifer monitoring, modeling, and data collection; and

(2) research to advance the scientific understanding of the district's groundwater resources.

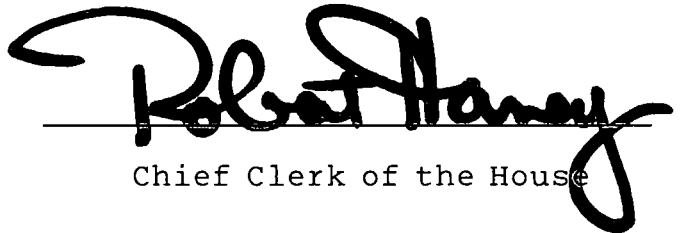
H.B. No. 3185

1 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

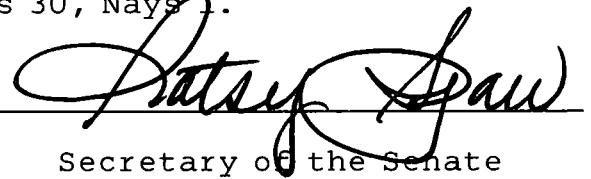
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3185 was passed by the House on May 9, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 139, Nays 6, 2 present, not voting.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3185 was passed by the Senate on May 24, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays .

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate


APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
3:30 PM O'CLOCK

JUN 12 2017  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD  
Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**May 10, 2017**

**TO:** Honorable Charles Perry, Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Water & Rural Affairs

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB3185** by Frank (Relating to fees charged by the Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District; authorizing a fee.), **As Engrossed**

<b>No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b>
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The bill would amend the Special District Local Laws Code allowing the district to charge an export fee equal to 150 percent of the maximum commercial water rate charged by the City of Wichita Falls for groundwater exported from the district. The bill specifies uses for the funds obtained from the export fee.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017.

**Local Government Impact**

According to the Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District, there would be a positive fiscal impact to the district.

**Source Agencies:**

**LBB Staff:** UP, SZ, GG, BM

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**April 17, 2017**

**TO:** Honorable Lyle Larson, Chair, House Committee on Natural Resources

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE:** HB3185 by Frank (Relating to fees charged by the Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District; authorizing a fee.), **As Introduced**

**No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would amend the Special District Local Laws Code allowing the district to charge an export fee equal to 150 percent of the maximum commercial water rate charged by the City of Wichita Falls for groundwater exported from the district. The bill specifies uses for the funds obtained from the export fee.

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**LBB Staff:** UP, SZ, GG, BM

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., *Chairman*  
Toby Baker, *Commissioner*  
Jon Niermann, *Commissioner*  
Richard A. Hyde, P.E., *Executive Director*



## TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

*Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution*

April 18, 2017

The Honorable Joe Straus  
Texas House of Representatives  
Capitol Station  
PO Box 2910  
Austin, Texas 78768-2910

Re: Responsibility of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Pursuant to Article XVI, Section 59(d), Texas Constitution.

House Bill (HB) 3185, as Filed by Representative James Frank - relating to fees charged by the Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District; authorizing a fee.

Dear Speaker Straus:

The following comments are provided pursuant to the Constitutional requirements referenced above. Under those requirements, the TCEQ must submit, to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the House of Representatives, the TCEQ's recommendations on specific legislation affecting water districts. We recommend that these comments be considered in the evaluation of the proposed legislation.

The bill amends Special District Local Laws Code §8867.103(a), Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District (District), located in Knox, Baylor, and Haskell Counties, by adding new §8867.103(a)(3), providing that the District may assess a fee for groundwater exported from the district of 150 percent of the maximum commercial water rate charged by the City of Wichita Falls. The bill also adds new Special District Local Laws Code §8867.103(c), providing that the District may use funds obtained from new §8867.103(a)(3) to enhance aquifer monitoring, modeling, data collection; and scientific research into the District's groundwater resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim Wilson".

Kim Wilson, Director  
Water Availability Division

cc: The Honorable Lyle Larson, Chairman, House Committee on Natural Resources  
Representative James Frank, Texas House of Representatives

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE OF TEXAS

HB 3185

Bill Number

TO The Honorable Governor of Texas  
SUBJECT A Bill Relating to a Conservation and Reclamation District

This is to transmit to you and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality copies of a bill relating to a conservation and reclamation district and copies of the notice of intention to introduce the bill. One copy is for your files and one for you to forward to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, under Section 59(d), Article XVI, Constitution of the State of Texas.

3/14/2017

Date transmitted to  
Governor's Office



Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives

TO Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
SUBJECT A Bill Relating to a Conservation and Reclamation District

This is to forward to you a copy of a bill relating to conservation and reclamation district and a copy of the notice of intention to introduce the bill.

March 24, 2017

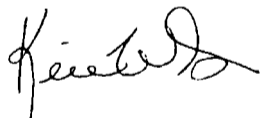
Date transmitted to  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality



\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

TO The Honorable Speaker of the House  
The Honorable President of the Senate  
The Honorable Governor of Texas  
SUBJECT A Bill Relating to a Conservation and Reclamation District

Attached are recommendations of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in compliance with Section 59(d), Article XVI, Constitution of the State of Texas.



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Texas Commission on Environmental Quality



85R HB 03185