

BILL ANALYSIS

H.B. 1617
By: Larson
Natural Resources
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

There is concern that the Texas Water Development Board may be unable to meet a deadline to identify and designate brackish groundwater production zones for certain areas of Texas due to inadequate funding and limited availability of qualified contractors. H.B. 1617 seeks to address this concern by postponing the deadline.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

H.B. 1617 amends Chapter 990 (H.B. 30), Acts of the 84th Legislature, Regular Session, 2015, to postpone from December 1, 2022, to December 1, 2032, the deadline by which the Texas Water Development Board is required to identify and designate brackish groundwater production zones for certain areas of Texas.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2019.