HB 2094 (2nd reading) Martinez (CSHB 2094 by Lucio)

SUBJECT: Removing property in the Hidalgo County Drainage District Number 1

COMMITTEE: Natural Resources — committee substitute recommended

VOTE: 7 ayes — T. King, Harris, Bowers, Kacal, Lucio, Paul, Price

0 nays

4 absent — Larson, Ramos, Walle, Wilson

WITNESSES: For — Raul Sesin, Hidalgo Co. Drainage District No 1; (Registered, but

did not testify: Ellie Torres)

Against — None

BACKGROUND: Interested parties have expressed concerns that property interests

encroaching on land within Hidalgo County Drainage District Number 1 hinder the ability of the district to perform its functions and the existing

process to remove the property is too time consuming.

DIGEST: CSHB 2094 would authorize the Hidalgo County Drainage District

Number 1 to remove real or personal property placed on land owned by the district or land subject to an easement held by the district, regardless of when the property was put in place and without the consent of its owner. The district would be required to send notice by certified mail to the owner as well as a second notice by certified mail at least 30 days after the date the first notice was sent. The district would be authorized to use existing civil lawsuit processes against the owner of the property to recover the cost of removing the property 30 days after the second notice

was received.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2021.