

## **Item 5 | Groundwater Legislation Filed | 87<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session**

The 87<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session will officially begin January 12, 2021. There are likely to be a number of bills filed dealing with groundwater. To date, two bills (identical) already have been filed on which board members should consider creating a position statement. Developing a “position” gives the General Manager clear direction when speaking with Representatives and Senators. These bills are:

**HB 666 & HB 668 by Harris** (identical)

**HB 996 by Burns**

**SB 152 by Perry**

There are four topics addressed in the bills:

- Attorney’s fees
- Petition for rulemaking
- Administrative completeness
- Notice of permit application or amendment

In past legislative sessions, the Board has chosen to create a “position” on any groundwater legislation filed that directly affects the rules or functions of Brazos Valley GCD. The common positions have been “For”, “Against”, and “Neutral”.

The General Manager is asking board members to discuss the topics contained in the identical bills and create a position statement for each. The bills have been provided to the board members and public prior to the board meeting for review and consideration.