

**89th Texas Legislature
Legislation filed related to GCDs**

BILL	AUTHOR	COMMENTS <i>5-29-25</i>
SB7	Perry Sen. 4/2 House engrossed 5/26 Sen items eligible calendar 5/29	<p>Relating to the oversight and financing of certain water infrastructure matters under the jurisdiction of the Texas Water Development Board.</p> <p>Amends eligible uses of the New Water Supply for Texas Fund (NWSTF) to add water and wastewater reuse projects; acquisition of water or right rights originating from outside of the state; reservoir projects meeting specific criteria; and infrastructure projects to transport or integrate into a water supply system, excluding groundwater produced from a state well for purposes other than new water supply, as projects eligible to receive financial assistance from the NWSTF.</p> <p>The bill would prohibit TWDB from transferring amounts resulting from HJR 7 revenue dedications from the TWF to the NWSTF for projects transporting water produced from a state well if the groundwater at the time of production had a total dissolved solids concentration that was not less than 3,000 milligrams per liter.</p>
SB1583	Blanco Signed by Gov 5/19 Eff. 9/1/25	<p>Relating to management plans adopted by GCDs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amends 36.1071, re GCD management plans criteria cleanup <p>For example, must add DFCs and MAGs to GCD management plan with 2 years of DFC adoption</p>
HB2078	Gerdes - Enrolled 5/28 - Eff. Immed. (upon Gov).	<p>Relating to the joint planning of desired future conditions in groundwater management areas.</p> <p>Amends 36.1071, 108 to require more DFC tracking and achievement metrics in District Management Plan and to GMA</p> <p>GMA: (d-1a) The district representatives shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) adopt desired future conditions under this section for <u>each approximately 50-year planning period identified by the executive administrator for the preparation of state and regional water plans; and</u> (2) identify interim values for the desired future conditions <u>adopted under Subdivision (1) for time periods not to exceed 10 years solely to assist the districts in monitoring interim progress in achieving the desired future conditions adopted for the approximately 50-year planning period.</u>
HB 1522	Gerdes - Enrolled 5/28 - Eff. Immed.	<p>Relating to notice of a meeting held under the open meetings law.</p> <p>Changes TOMA 72 hrs notice to 3 business days</p>
HB5560	Harris - passed House 5/8 - passed Senate 5/19 - On House items eligible calendar	<p>relating to penalties in certain suits involving a groundwater conservation district; increasing a penalty.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increases GCD enforcement penalty cap to \$25,000/day from 10,000 in - court may assess a penalty greater than the maximum penalty authorized if the court determines that the person gained an economic benefit as a result of the violation that was greater than the maximum penalty. A penalty assessed under this subsection must be in an amount determined by the court to be necessary and appropriate to outweigh the economic benefit gained by the person as a result of the violation and discourage future violations.

HB1633	Gerdes - Enrolled 5/25 - Eff. Immed, (upon Gov).	relating to the criteria considered by groundwater conservation districts before granting or denying a permit or permit amendment. - amends 36.113(d) to add to GCD consideration when evaluating a permit application: <u>“wells that are registered with the district and exempt from the requirement to obtain a permit under this chapter or district rules;”</u>
HB1689	Gerdes - Enrolled 5/15 - Eff. 9/1/25	relating to the use of certain groundwater export fees collected by a groundwater conservation district. - Amends 36.207 to allow export fees to mitigate wells affected outside of the GCD
HB1690	Gerdes - passed House 4/24 - passed Senate 5/27 - On House calendar	relating to an application for a permit for the transfer of groundwater out of a groundwater conservation district. - Amends 36.122 to require more notice requirements for transport permits
HB2080	Gerdes - Enrolled 5-28 - Eff. Immed, (upon Gov).	Relating to the review of the duties of a groundwater conservation district by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. - Amends 36.3011 to add in needed details of how TCEQ panel operates, is reimbursed, etc.
SB863	Perry - passed Senate 4/16 - passed House 5/28 - On Sen. items eligible calendar	Relating to the use of water withdrawn from the Edwards Aquifer. - Allows EA water withdrawn from the aquifer must be used within: (1) the boundaries of the authority; or (2) <u>the certificated area of a retail public utility according to a certificate of convenience and necessity, as the certificate existed on September 1, 2025, any part of which was located within the boundaries of the authority on June 28, 1996.</u>
SB616	Schwertner -Enrolled/Signed - Eff. 5/24/25	relating to aquifer storage and recovery projects that transect a portion of the Edwards Aquifer. - Allows TCEQ to grant by rule or permit <u>an aquifer storage and recovery project that includes an ASR injection well, as defined under Section 27.151, that transects the Edwards Aquifer in the area of Williamson County east of Interstate Highway 35 for the injection of water into a geologic formation that underlies the Edwards Aquifer.</u>
HB1523	Gerdes	Prohibits City of Austin ASR project in Bastrop County
SB1194	Flores - Eff. 5/15	Creates the Central Texas Water Alliance CTWA will serve as a regional water authority with a mission to plan and develop water resources across the Central Texas region. The alliance will work to address current water supply challenges, economic development, public health and safety, environmental protection and long-term sustainability. The alliance has been supported by a broad spectrum of entities, both public and private, to include Bell County, McLennan County, Lampasas County, Fort Cavazos, the Brazos River Authority, Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District, Bell County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 (WCID 1), multiple cities, multiple water supply corporations, and private entities.