

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

**FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**May 28, 2015**

**TO:** Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

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

**IN RE:** **HB4175** by Thompson, Senfronia (Relating to eminent domain powers of certain conservation and reclamation districts.), **As Passed 2nd House**

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

The bill would amend the Special District Local Laws to permit certain municipal utility districts, utility districts, and water control and improvement districts to exercise eminent domain if the district submits a letter to the Comptroller of Public Accounts by December 31, 2015. Despite the expiration of eminent domain authority under Section 2206.101(c), Government Code, a district would have eminent domain authority on or after the 90th day following the submittal of the letter to the Comptroller. The bill would establish Saint George Place Management District.

The bill amends the Special District Local Laws Code relating to the territory, jurisdiction, board composition, elections and powers of the Barton Springs-Edwards Aquifer. Under the provisions of the bill, a holder of a temporary or regular permit subject to a district order to reduce the amount of water production would be permitted to contest the reduction by requesting a hearing conducted by the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH). The bill would require the district to contract with SOAH to conduct the hearings.

Based on information provided by SOAH, this analysis assumes that all duties and responsibilities necessary to implement the provisions of the bill could be accomplished utilizing existing staff and resources.

**Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts

**LBB Staff:** UP, SZ, KVe, SD, EK