By: Larson

H.B. No. 2378

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED 1 AN ACT 2 relating to extensions of an expired permit for the transfer of groundwater from a groundwater conservation district. 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS: 4 5 SECTION 1. Section 36.122, Water Code, is amended by adding Subsections (j-1) and (j-2) and amending Subsection (k) to read as 6 7 follows: (j-1) A term under Subsection (i) or (j) shall automatically 8 9 be extended on or before its expiration: (1) to a term that is not shorter than the term of an 10 operating permit for the production of water to be transferred that 11 is in effect at the time of the extension; and 12 (2) for each additional term for which that operating 13 14 permit for production is renewed under Section 36.1145 or remains in effect under Section 36.1146. 15 (j-2) A permit automatically extended under Subsection 16 (j-1) continues to be subject to conditions contained in the permit 17 as issued before the automatic extension. 18 (k) Notwithstanding the period specified under Subsection 19 [in Subsections] (i), [and] (j), or (j-1) during which water may be 20 transferred under a permit, a district may periodically review the 21 amount of water that may be transferred under the permit and may 22 23 limit the amount if additional factors considered in Subsection (f) warrant the limitation, subject to Subsection (c). The review 24

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described by this subsection may take place not more frequently than the period provided for the review or renewal of regular permits issued by the district. In its determination of whether to renew a permit issued under this section, the district shall consider relevant and current data for the conservation of groundwater resources and shall consider the permit in the same manner it would consider any other permit in the district.

8 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to 9 the term of a permit issued under Sections 36.122(i) and (j), Water 10 Code, that expires after September 1, 2017.

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SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.