

By: Hinojosa

S.B. No. 329

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

# 1 AN ACT

2 relating to state and local planning for and responses to drought.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

4 SECTION 1. Section 10.010, Water Code, is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6                   Sec. 10.010. POWERS AND DUTIES OF COUNCIL. (a) The council  
7 shall:

8 (1) monitor trends in water conservation  
9 implementation;

10 (2) monitor new water conservation technologies for  
11 possible inclusion by the board as best management practices in the  
12 best management practices guide described by Section 16.0552  
13 [developed by the water conservation implementation task force  
14 under Chapter 109, Acts of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session,  
15 2003];

16 (3) monitor the effectiveness of the statewide water  
17 conservation public awareness program developed under Section  
18 [16.401](#) and associated local involvement in implementation of the  
19 program;

20 (4) develop and implement a state water management  
21 resource library;

22 (5) develop and implement a public recognition program  
23 for water conservation:

(6) monitor the implementation of water conservation

1 strategies by water users included in regional water plans; and  
2 (7) monitor target and goal guidelines for water  
3 conservation to be considered by the board and commission.

4                   (b) To assist with drought preparedness and response, the  
5 council shall:

8 (2) monitor new drought response technologies for  
9 possible inclusion by the board as best management practices in the  
10 best management practices guide described by Section 16.0552; and

13 SECTION 2. Section 11.1272, Water Code, is amended by  
14 adding Subsections (f), (g), (h), and (i) to read as follows:  
15 (f) At least once every five years, a wholesale or retail  
16 public water supplier or irrigation district shall review and, as  
17 necessary, update the supplier or district's drought contingency  
18 plan and submit to the commission the reviewed or updated plan.

1           (h) A wholesale or retail public water supplier shall notify  
2 the commission not later than the fifth business day after the date  
3 the supplier implements, changes the manner of implementing, or  
4 ceases to implement a mandatory provision of the supplier's drought  
5 contingency plan. The commission by rule shall establish criteria  
6 for determining the actions that must be reported under this  
7 subsection.

8           (i) The commission shall maintain on its Internet website a  
9 list of wholesale and retail public water suppliers that are  
10 currently implementing a drought contingency plan that displays for  
11 each supplier:

12           (1) the degree of drought severity in the county or  
13 counties in which the service area of the supplier is located;  
14           (2) whether the service area of the supplier is in a  
15 county subject to a declaration under Section 418.014 or 418.108,  
16 Government Code, of a state of disaster due to drought conditions;  
17 and

18           (3) the drought response stage the supplier is  
19 implementing.

20           SECTION 3. Subchapter C, Chapter 16, Water Code, is amended  
21 by adding Section 16.0552 to read as follows:

22           Sec. 16.0552. BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES GUIDE. (a) In this  
23 section, "best management practices" has the meaning assigned by  
24 Section 11.002.

25           (b) The board, in coordination with the commission and the  
26 Water Conservation Advisory Council, shall:

27           (1) regularly review and update the water conservation

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1 best management practices guide developed by the water conservation  
2 implementation task force under Chapter 109 (S.B. 1094), Acts of  
3 the 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003; and  
4           (2) include in the guide best management practices for  
5 drought response.

6           (c) The board shall make the guide available on its Internet  
7 website.

8           SECTION 4. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
9 of this Act, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality shall  
10 adopt rules as necessary to implement Section [11.1272](#), Water Code,  
11 as amended by this Act.

12           SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.