

89th Texas Legislature: Stormwater and Related Bills *Updated 2/13/24

Bill	Author	Topic	Status	Last Action	Related Bills	NCTCOG Staff Notes
SB 480	Sen. Perry	Water research and planning, Water development	Filed on 11/22/24	02/03/2025 Referred to Water, Agriculture, & Rural Affairs	N/A	Relating to the authority of a local government to enter into an interlocal contract with certain governmental entities to participate in water research or planning activities. SB 480 would amend Government Code to allow a local government to contract with another local government, the state, or federal government to jointly participate in research or planning activities related to water resources.
SB 526	Sen. Eckhardt	Green stormwater infrastructure in new state buildings	Filed on 12/04/24	02/03/2025 Referred to Business & Commerce	N/A	Relating to the use of green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) in new state buildings. Defines GSI and directs the use of GSI in construction of new state buildings.
SB 542	Sen. Schwertner	Watering restrictions, landscaping/vegetation, HOAs	Filed	Filed on 12/06/24	Identical Bills: HB 359, HB 517	Relating to the authority of a property owners' association to assess a fine for discolored vegetation or turf during a period of residential watering restriction. Would restrict or limit fines against property owners for brown or discolored vegetation when under a watering restriction as mandated by a municipality, water utility, or other wholesale or retail water supplier as part of a water conservation strategy during drought. Would take effect Sept. 1, 2025 if enacted.
SB 1226	Sen. Hinojosa	Relating to the creation of certain regional conservation and reclamation districts.	Filed 02/11/25	Filed on 02/11/25	N/A	Bill would amend sections of the Water Code to expand the types of counties impacted by creation of or activities related to water districts; clarify "water district" being created under general law or a special Act operating under Chapter 36, 51, 55, 56, 58, or 65. Bill outlines district to be created in a county and that the governing body of any municipality may petition the commission for the creation of a district in any territory within the municipality or its extraterritorial jurisdiction. Also addressed within the bill are improvement projects the district may take on which do have stormwater elements such as controlling, storing, preserving, treating, reclaiming, or distributing stormwater, floodwater, or water from a river or stream in the district. Also addressed is implementing water conservation, flood control, drainage of stormwater and floodwater, and other projects that incorporate multiple service areas into an areawide service facility or system that serves the district.
SB 1253	Sen. Perry	Relating to the authority of a political subdivision to provide credits against impact fees to builders and developers for certain water conservation and reuse projects.	Filed	Filed on 02/12/25	N/A	Bill amends Local Government Code Subchapter B, Chapter 395 to add Section 395.0231 which allows a political subdivision to provide a credit against water and wastewater impact fees that are otherwise assessed to a builder or developer for the construction, contribution, or dedication of an eligible facility, system, or product that results in water reuse, conservation, or savings. This includes, under Section (b-3) of the bill, a facility, system, or product that: diminishes the demand for stormwater, drainage, and flood control facilities per service unit.
HB 359	Rep. Goodwin	Watering restrictions, landscaping/vegetation, HOAs	Filed	Filed on 11/12/24	Identical Bills: HB 517, SB 542	Relating to the authority of a property owners' association to assess a fine for discolored vegetation or turf during a period of residential watering restriction. Would restrict or limit fines against property owners for brown or discolored vegetation when under a watering restriction as mandated by a municipality, water utility, or other wholesale or retail water supplier as part of a water conservation strategy during drought. Would take effect Sept. 1, 2025 if enacted.
HB 517	Rep. Davila	Watering restrictions, landscaping/vegetation, HOAs	Filed	Filed on 11/12/24	Identical Bills: HB 359, SB 542	Relating to the authority of a property owners' association to assess a fine for discolored vegetation or turf during a period of residential watering restriction. Would restrict or limit fines against property owners for brown or discolored vegetation when under a watering restriction as mandated by a municipality, water utility, or other wholesale or retail water supplier as part of a water conservation strategy during drought. Would take effect Sept. 1, 2025 if enacted.

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HB 884	Rep. Garcia Hernandez	Relating to the municipal sales and use tax for street maintenance.	Filed	Filed on 11/12/24	N/A	Bill addresses Section 327.007 of the Tax Code by amending Subsections (a) and (b) and adding Subsection (b-1). Bill also amends Section 327.008 to state that revenue from the tax imposed under this chapter may be used only to maintain and repair a municipal: (1) street or sidewalk; or (2) water, wastewater, or stormwater system located in the width of a way of a municipal street.
HB 1370	Rep. Raymond	Landscaping and lawn care, xeriscape	Filed	Filed on 11/18/24	HJR 97	This bill proposes that Tax Code be amended. The bill relates to an exemption from ad valorem taxation of the amount of the appraised value of real property that arises from the use of xeriscape on the property.
HB 1808	Rep. Landgraf	Relating to the regulation and management of produced water from oil and gas operations.	Filed	Filed 1/9/25		Bill amends the Natural Resources Code to include permits for the recycling and beneficial use of produced water associated with any operation or activity regulated by the Railroad commission taking into account the need to protect the public health and the environment.
HB 1904	Rep. Canales	Relating to the release of balloons and associated littering; creating a criminal offense.	Filed	Filed 1/16/25		Bill amends the Health and Safety Code by adding a subdivision to address littering from intentional releases of balloons outside of a roofed structure. Would create Class A, B, or C misdemeanors based on the weight or volume of the deflated balloons.
HB 2010	Rep. Vasut	Relating to the dissolution of certain special districts.	Filed	Filed 1/22/25		Bill amends Section 49.321 of the Water Code so it may dissolve any district that is inactive for a period of at least 5 but less than 10 years consecutive years and has no outstanding bonded indebtedness and shall dissolve any district that is inactive for a period of at least 10 consecutive years and has no outstanding bonded indebtedness. Bill also addresses the order of dissolution.
HB 2015	Rep. Zwiener	Relating to the consideration of water conservation by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality when determining whether to grant or deny a petition for the creation of a municipal utility district.	Filed	Filed on 1/22/25		Bill would amend Section 54.015 of the Water Code to include a water conservation plan that meets the requirements of Section 13.146, regardless of whether that section applies to the district. Would also amend Section 54.021 (b) of the Water Code to include water conservation when determining if a project is feasible, practicable, necessary, and would be a benefit to the land included in the district.
HB 2669	Rep. Guerra	Relating to the establishment of a reporting and education program for the dangers of balloons to livestock.	Filed	Filed on 02/11/25		Bill directs the extension service to establish a system for ranchers to report instances of balloons on ranchers' property and livestock that have died from eating a balloon. Also directs the extension service to develop and implement an outreach program to inform ranchers of the reporting system and people about the dangers of releasing balloons into the environment.