



Water Environment  
Association of Texas

# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Session of the Texas Legislature!

**Heather Cooke**, COA | WEAT President Elect

**Julie Nahrgang**, WEAT | TACWA

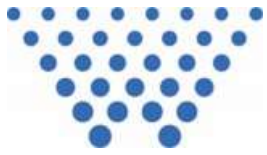
Central Texas Section Meeting, March 12, 2019



# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Day 64 of 140 and Feeling the Love

Water Environment Association of Texas





# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Football as Olive Branch



I am inspired by the camaraderie and the collaboration that has already infused this session. It seems unprecedented, and I've got to tell you, I'm feeling it myself... I'm feeling moved. And I want to set the example... I'm willing to step up and put aside past differences and work with [state Rep.] [Lyle Larson](#) to reinstate the rivalry game between the Aggies and the Longhorns.



- Governor Greg Abbott, February 5



## NEWS

### Quote of the Week

FRI., NOV. 30, 2018



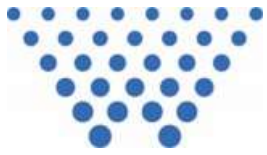
"The intercollegiate football teams of The University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University shall play a nonconference, regular-season football game against one another on the fourth Thursday, Friday, or Saturday of November each year."

– From House Bill 412 by Rep. **Lyle Larson**, R-San Antonio (Aggie).









# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: New and Familiar Faces

## House Natural Resources Committee

### Position

**Chair:**

**Vice Chair:**

**Members:**

### Member

[Rep. Lyle Larson](#)

[Rep. Will Metcalf](#)

[Rep. Alex Dominguez](#)

[Rep. Jessica Farrar](#)

[Rep. Cody Harris](#)

[Rep. Tracy O. King](#)

[Rep. Mike Lang](#)

[Rep. Poncho Nevárez](#)

[Rep. Tom Oliverson](#)

[Rep. Four Price](#)

[Rep. Ana-Maria Ramos](#)

**House Committee  
on Natural  
Resources (C390)**

**Legislature:** 86(R)  
- 2019

**Appointment  
Date:** 1/23/2019

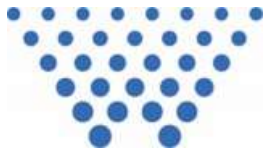
**Clerk:** Shannon  
Houston

**Phone:** (512) 463-  
0802

**Room:** EXT E2.104







# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: New and Familiar Faces

## House Environmental Regulation Committee

### Position

**Chair:**

**Vice Chair:**

**Members:**

### Member

[Rep. J. M. Lozano](#)

[Rep. Ed Thompson](#)

[Rep. César Blanco](#)

[Rep. Kyle J. Kacal](#)

[Rep. John Kuempel](#)

[Rep. Geanie W. Morrison](#)

[Rep. Ron Reynolds](#)

[Rep. John Turner](#)

[Rep. Erin Zwiener](#)

**House Committee  
on Environmental  
Regulation  
(C260)**

**Legislature:**  
86(R) - 2019

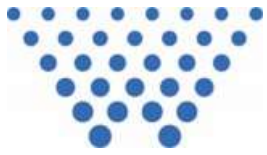
**Appointment  
Date:** 1/23/2019

**Clerk: Scott  
Crownover**

**Phone:**  
(512) 463-0776

**Room:** EXT E2.154





# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: New and Familiar Faces

## Senate Water and Rural Affairs Committee

### Position

**Member**

### Chair:

[Sen. Charles Perry](#)

### Vice Chair:

[Sen. Brandon Creighton](#)

### Members:

[Sen. Carol Alvarado](#)

[Sen. Nathan Johnson](#)

[Sen. Lois W. Kolkhorst](#)

[Sen. José R. Rodríguez](#)

[Sen. Larry Taylor](#)

**Senate  
Committee on  
Water & Rural  
Affairs (C700)**

**Legislature:** 86(  
R) - 2019

**Appointment  
Date:** 1/9/2019

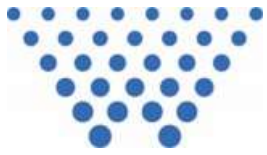
**Clerk:** Leah  
Curren

**Phone:**  
(512) 463-0340

**Room:** SHB 335







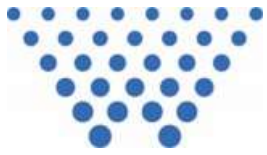
# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Flood Planning and Funding Bills

**SB 396 Perry(R)** – Major flood planning bill relating to regional flood planning.

- Two parts of plan, dam repair and state flood plan implementation including advisory committee
- Changes water code to direct TWDB to develop a state flood plan every five year based on regional river basin plans

**SB 397 Perry(R)** – Omnibus Flood plan funding bill.

- Creates State Flood Plan Implementation Fund
- \$1.2 billion from rainy day fund for initial funding
- \$600 million for dam repair and maintenance by the State Soil and Water Conservation Board for dam repair and maintenance
- \$600 million for flood plan implementation by TWDB

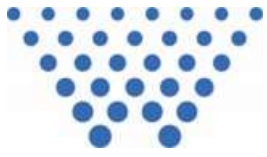


# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Flood Planning and Funding Bills

**HB 478 Phelan(R)**- Creates Flood Infrastructure Fund for flood planning, mitigation, and infrastructure projects

- defines key terms eligible political subdivisions and flood project
- prescribes 9 revenue sources for fund
- 6 scenarios where funds can be used
- Imposes application requirements for those applying
- Sets up requirements for TWDB in approving applications and developing rules to establish and maintain the fund and the app process

**HB 1010 Paul, Dennis(R)** – Relating to state and regional flood planning



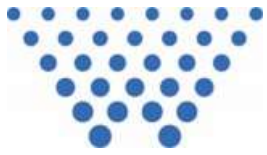
# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Flood Planning and Funding Bills

**HB 274 Davis, Sarah(R)** – Relating to the creation of the disaster reinvestment and infrastructure planning revolving fund

**SB 695 Creighton, Brandon(R)** – Relating to state policies and programs that affect the funding of flood planning, mitigation, and infrastructure projects

**SJR 28 Perry(R)** - Provides for a constitutional amendment to create the State Flood Plan Implementation Fund by taking \$1.2M from the Rainy Day Fund and administered by TWDB and State Soil and Water Conservation Board





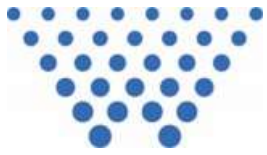
# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Flood Planning Studies

**HB 801 Walle, Amando(D)/SB 179 Miles, Borris(D)** – Relating to the establishment of a task force to conduct a comprehensive study on flood control infrastructure for Harris Co.

**SB 563 Perry, Charles(R)**- Relating to the reporting of information about the use of federal money for flood research, planning, and mitigation

**HB 911 Huberty, Dan(R)** – Creates Lake Houston Watershed Commission

**HB 990 Gutierrez, Roland(D)/SB 515 Rodriguez, Jose(D)**- TWDB and TCEQ to study effects of construction of border wall on flood management, water quality, and environmental contamination impacts



# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Flood, Dam, and Disaster Alert/Preparedness

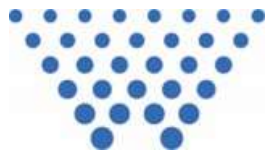
**HB 26 Metcalf, Will(R)** – creation of an alert system notifying people of dam releases

**HB 34 Reymond, Richard(D)** – TX Division of Emergency Management to develop statewide alert system

**HB 91 Martinez, Armando(D)** – Disaster identification and communication system in a state of emergency disaster

**HB 137 Hinojosa, Gina** – Dam hazard classification changes

**SB 285 Miles, Borris(D)** – Relating to information and outreach regarding hurricane preparedness and mitigations



# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Water Quality

**HB 817 King, Tracy(D)/SB 655 Flores** – Discharge bans for Nueces River portion of Edwards

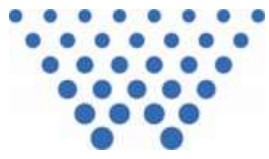
**HB 944 Dutton** – Signage requirements for wastewater and injection well permits

**HB 1267 Wray(R) /SB 530 Birdwell(R)** – Raises water body pollution penalties up to \$5,000

**HB 1671 Huberty, Dan(R)** – Water quality protection of certain areas

**HB 1059 Lucio III, Eddie(D)** – TCEQ to appoint green Stormwater infrastructure and low impact development report group





# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Water Quality

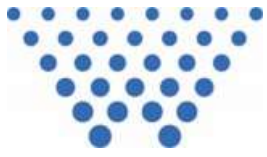
**HB 2003 Leach/SB 970 Creighton** – Would shift approval authority of PE contracts from state Comptroller to Attorney General

**HB 2023 Metcalf/SB 942 Johnson** – Broadens provisions of Clean Water SRF eligibility and remove 20 year loan term limit.

**HB 2426 Reynolds /SB 1498 Zaffirini**– Increases size of on-site septic system from 5 to 10,000GPD and changes permitting requirements.

**HB 3035 Zwiener/ HB 4025 Rodriguez** – Amends TCEQ penalty assessment for compliance violators

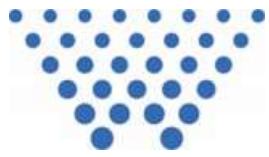
**HB 1059 Lucio III, Eddie(D)** – TCEQ to appoint green Stormwater infrastructure and low impact development report group



# Welcome to the Newest Additions to my Household

Water Environment Association of Texas





# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Biosolids and Domestic Septage:

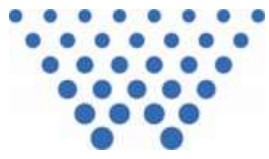
**HB 3318 Burns / SB 1724 Birdwell** – Creates permit requirements for domestic septage like those of Class B including permit rather than authorization and pathogen and vector reduction treatment like that of class B.

**HB 3319 Burns / SB 1723** – Defines domestic septage and requires soil monitoring samples for I and application unit to be collected by inspectors for domestic septage sites and Class B sites.

**HB 3930 Morrison / SB 2070 Menendez** – Prohibits land application of grit and grease trap waste







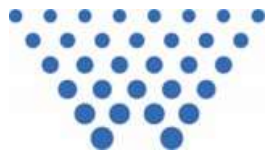
# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Produced Water and Discharge Permits:

**HB 2545 Guillen** – Amends tax code to provide tax incentives to certain desal facilities. Facility permit holder gets credits for producing freshwater at desal facility and credits for mineral extraction.

**HB 2771 Lozano / SB 1585 Hughes** – Allows TCEQ to issue discharge permits for produced water under TPDES program then sends delegation of permitting back to RRC

**HB 3067 Ashby** – Changes tax code to incentivize desal of salty produced water and requires RRC to set adopt rules for program

**HB 3246 Darby** – Relates to treating produced water for beneficial use – reads as a chain of custody bill

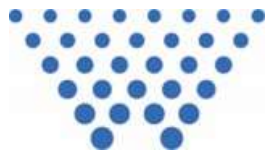


# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Produced Water and Discharge Permits:

**HB 3320 Zwiener** – Requires O&G companies located over the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone to submit to TCEQ a water pollution abatement plan for the facility

**HB 3717 Dominguez / SB 1999 Hinojosa** – creates a tax credit program incentivizing the treatment and ASR of produced water

**HB 4380 Herrero** – creates an environmental task force advisory committee which is tasked with reviewing the RRC's regulatory structure and rules



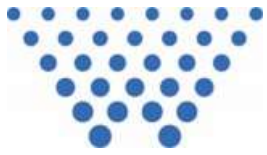
# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Spill Reporting and Remediation:

**HB 3805 Paul / SB 2394** – Requires spills to be reported to county judge in which the spill or discharge occurred as soon as possible and no later than 24 hours. Existing spill exemptions apply

**SB 1994 Birdwell** – Requires spill to be reported to “local government officials”

**HB 4116 Zwiener** – Requires TCEQ establish an escrow account and program for TPDES permit holders to pay into the account in the event that the permit holder causes a discharge that damages the environment





# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Brackish Groundwater and Desalination

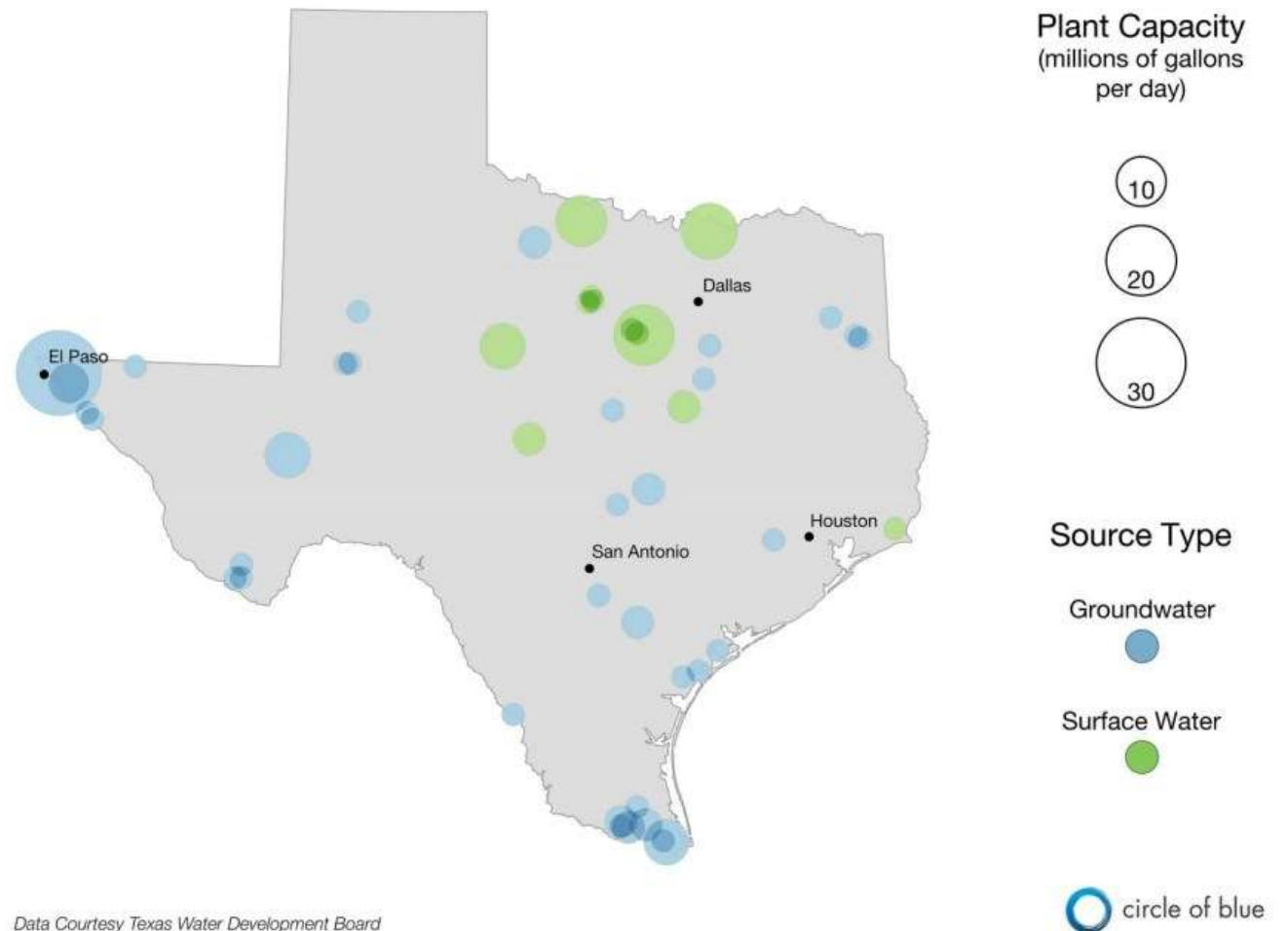
Water Environment Association of Texas

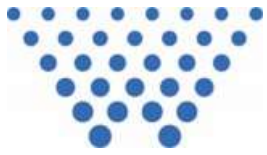
**HB 722 Larson, Lyle(R)**  
groundwater

**HB 724 Larson, Lyle(R)**  
groundwater

**HB 845 Lazano, JM(R)** -

## Brackish Water Desalination Plants in Texas





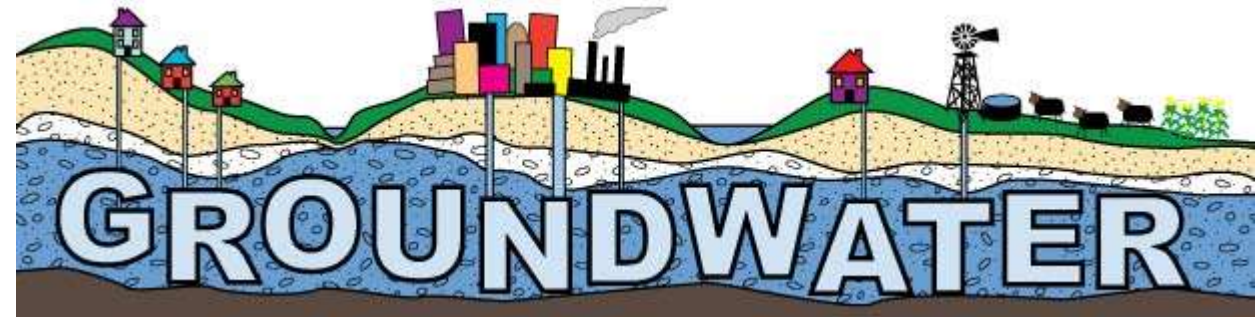
# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Groundwater

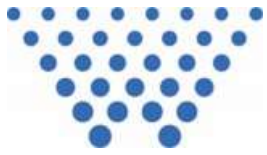
**HB 726 Larson, Lyle(R)** – Omnibus groundwater bill that amends and repeals multiple sections of Chapter 36, Water Code relating to limiting rules at time of permit

**HB 1066 Ashby, Trent(R)** – Syncs up terms of export and operating permits

**HB 1479 King, Tracy(D)** – Transfer of irrigation rights in Edwards

**HB 1594 Shine, Hugh(R)** – TWDB to update groundwater availability models for Edwards and Trinity aquifers by Sept 2020





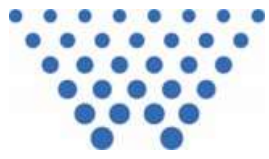
# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Water Planning and Water Availability Models (WAMS)

**HB 723 Larson, Lyle(R)**-WAM updates for Brazos, Guadalupe, Nueces, Red, Rio Grande, San Antonio, and San Jacinto river basins by Dec 2022

**SB 724 Perry, Charles(R)**-WAM updates for Brazos, Neches, Red, and Rio Grande river basins by Dec 2022

**HB 807 Larson, Lyle(R)** - Creates Interregional Planning Council to bridge planning across regions





# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Workforce Development:

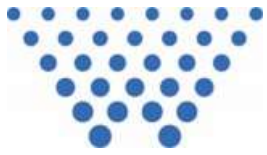
**HB 1469** – Gives school districts and charter schools access to skills development fund for workforce training

**SB 1538** – Creates veterans career mentoring program for technical training

**SB 1539** – Requires Alamo Community College to implement pilot program

**SB 1576 Alvarado** – Creates TX industrial workforce apprenticeship grant program to address immediate workforce needs resulting from impact of Harvey and overall workforce shortages





# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR)

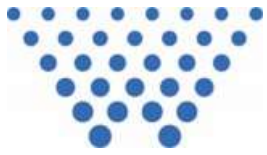
**HB 720 Larson(R)** – Relating to appropriations of water for use in aquifer storage and recovery projects

**HB 721 Larson(R)** – Relating to the duty of the TWDB to conduct studies of and submit reports on aquifer storage and recovery (ASR)

**HB 481 Kuempel(R)/B 520, Donna(R)** – Relating to the storage and recovery of water in a portion of the Edwards Aquifer

**HB 1052 Larson, Lyle(R)** – Allows TWDB State Participation account to be used to fund ASR or desalination facilities

**HB 1044 Zwiener, Erin (D)/SB 483 Campbell, Donna (R)** – Expands types of injection well permits for ASR projects over sections of the Edwards Aquifer – Buda bill



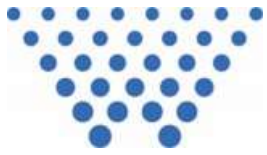
# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Lead Testing and Utility Rates

**HB 997 Collier(D)** – Mandatory lead testing by all school districts and charter schools

**HB 458 Paul(R)**– Water utilities must notify cities prior to disconnecting multifamily buildings

**HB 1506 Perez** – Expands eligibility for Customer assistance programs

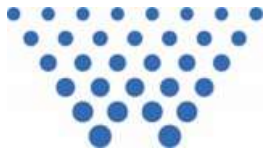
**HB 1587 Geren/SB 700 Nichols** – Modifies investor owned utility classes and rate process



# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Cyber Security and Public Information/Notification

**HB 351 Blanco(D)** – adds cyber attack prevention to the emergency management purposes in the Government Code and to the definition of a “disaster”

**SB 64 Nelson(R)** – promotes information sharing on cybersecurity across jurisdictions and for electric utilities



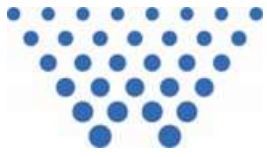
# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Bill Tracking Buffet

**HB 245 Farrar** – relating to requirements to make environmental and water use-permits available online

**HB 4067 Murr** – Work group to study issues impeding the removal of wet debris after a storm

**HB 4385 Oliverson** – Posting of info on municipal utility districts websites

**HB 2527 Leach / SB 1732 Paxton** – Requires water districts make audio and video recordings of open meetings available on the internet



# Welcome to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature: Bill Tracking Buffet

**HB 1229 Shaheen(R)** – Allows internet postings in place of newspaper notices

**HB 4570 Larson** – established an advisory board to study the interaction of surface water and ground water.





Water Environment  
Association of Texas

# The 86<sup>th</sup> Session of the Texas Legislature: All the Feels!

## Questions and Comments

**Heather Cooke**, COA | WEAT President Elect

**Julie Nahrgang**, WEAT | TACWA

Central Texas Section Meeting, March 12, 2019

