



Trinity River Authority of Texas  
*Enriching the Trinity basin as a resource for Texans*

# Galveston Bay Council 86<sup>th</sup> Regular Session Update Howard S. Slobodin

January 16, 2019

Wastewater Treatment ▪ Water Treatment ▪ Water Storage ▪ Lake Livingston ▪ Recreation







# Dates and Stats 86<sup>th</sup> Regular Session

# 86<sup>th</sup> Session Important Dates



# 86<sup>th</sup> Session Interim Reports

## Senate Committee on Agriculture, Water & Rural Affairs

Interim Report : 2017 Hurricane Harvey  
Response  
to the  
86th Legislature



November 2018

## Senate Committee on Agriculture, Water & Rural Affairs

Interim Report  
to the  
86th Legislature



December 2018



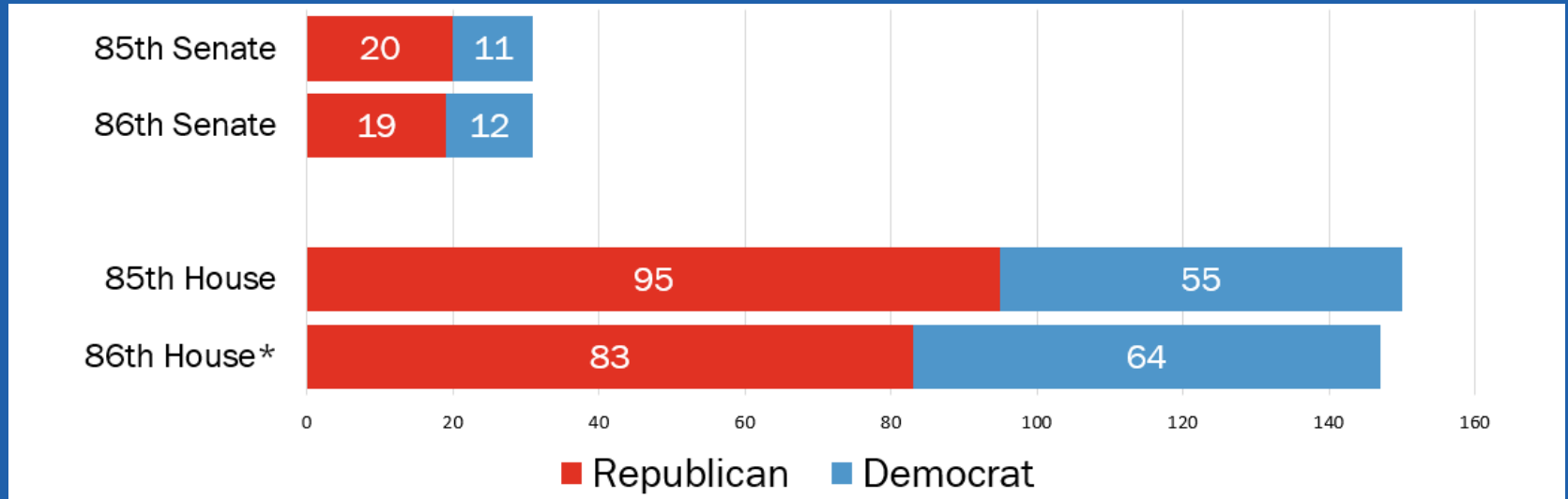
## INTERIM REPORT *to the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature*



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
NATURAL RESOURCES

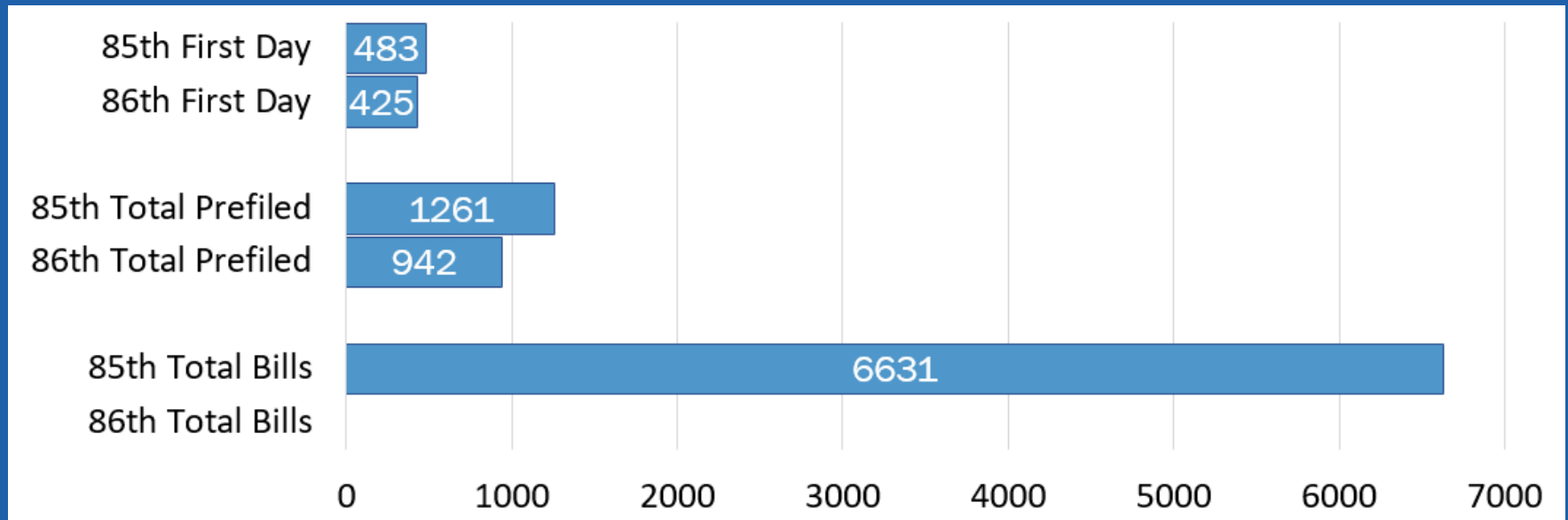
*December 2018*

# 86<sup>th</sup> Session Party Stats



\* Three open seats (Harris Co., Bexar Co., and El Paso Co.) subject to special election.

# 86<sup>th</sup> Bill Stats



Total bill filing is behind pace of the 85<sup>th</sup> Regular Session



# 86<sup>th</sup> Leadership



Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick



House Speaker Dennis Bonnen

# Bills of Interest





# Bills of Interest

## Water Availability Model Updates, HB 723 (Larson):

- Originally authorized in Senate Bill 1 (1997).
- Developed between 1998-2004.
- Brazos, Guadalupe, Nueces, Red, Rio Grande, San Antonio, and San Jacinto basins.
- To be completed by December 1, 2022.
- Update period of record data, not model itself.



# Bills of Interest

HB 100 (Johnson):

- Modifies Tex. Gov't Code Ch. 2056.
- Requires consideration of expected changes in services provided by agencies because of changes in weather, water availability, and climate variability, as determined by the Texas state climatologist.
- Requires biennial reports by state climatologist on projected changes.
- TCEQ, TWDB, TPWD and PUCT.





# Bills of Interest

## HB 219 (Reynolds):

- Municipalities presently authorized to adopt comprehensive plans for long-range development (Local Gov't Code Ch. 213).
- Long-range plans must be updated every five years.
- Cities that adopt long-range plans must adopt “environmental evaluation report.”
- Detailing adverse and beneficial effects of plan implementation on air, water and soil quality.





# Bills of Interest

HB 245 (Farrar):

- Internet posting of water rights applications by applicant.
- Application and supporting materials.
- Subsequent revisions and supplements to application.



# Bills of Interest

HB 654 (Dutton):

- Amends Water Code Ch. 5 definition of “affected person.”
- Adds state senator and state representative to list.





# Bills of Interest

HB 720 (Larson, refile):

- Addresses appropriations of water for use in ASR projects.
- Authorizes appropriation of water that is not continuously available for ASR projects.
- Expedited procedure for permitting action.
- Authorizes TCEQ rule adoptions for required availability and applications of e-flow standards.
- Conversion applications from surface impoundment to ASR exempt from notice and hearing requirements if no increase in diversion.





# Bills of Interest

HB 721 (Larson, refile):

- TWDB studies and reports on ASR.
- Projects identified in state water plan or by interested persons.
- Report study results to RWPGs and interested persons.
- Stand-alone state-wide study of major and minor aquifers as to suitability for ASR, to be completed by December 15, 2020.



# Bills of Interest

HB 722 (Larson, refile as amended):

- GCD rules for permits in “designated brackish groundwater production zones (DBGPZ).”
- Zones to be identified by TWDB under existing law.
- GCD rule adoption by petition, 180-day deadline.
- Requires 30-year permit term.
- Requires simplified permitting procedure for brackish groundwater.
- Requires GCD rules to specify water available from DBGPZ is in addition to MAG limits.





# Bills of Interest

HB 724 (Larson, refile):

- Governs reuse of treated brackish groundwater and return flows from treated brackish groundwater.
- Automatic bed-and-banks for both.
- TCEQ “shall grant” diversionary rights for IBTs of treated brackish groundwater and return flows derived therefrom.





# Bills of Interest

HB 726 (Larson):

- Amendments to Water Code Ch. 36.
- Regulatory freeze: GCD rules in place on date of application govern.
- Prohibits separate permit requirement for export.
- Retains separate export fee authority for GCDs.
- Limits and conditions GCD authority to adopt permitting moratoria.



# Bills of Interest

## HB 807 (Larson):

- Creates interregional planning council in state water plan process.
- One member of each RWPG.
- Improve coordination among RWPGs, facilitate dialogue regarding interregional strategies, provide report to TWDB.
- Requires RWPs to address counterproductive variations in drought response strategies among user groups.
- Requires RWPs to address potential for ASR, and set a GPCD goal for municipal users.







# Flooding Bills

- HB 26, Metcalf: Texas dam release alert system; new dam subchapter of Water Code Ch. 12.
- HB 34, Raymond: Statewide disaster alert system.
- HB 137, Hinojosa: Notice to political subdivisions of high hazard or significant hazard dam classification.
- HB 478, Phelan: Flood Infrastructure Fund at TWDB.





# Flooding Bills

- HB 801, Walle: Establishment of task force to study flood control infrastructure in Harris County.
- SB 339, Huffman: Requires residential seller's disclosure where property is in a 100- or 500-year floodplain, is within the flood pool of a reservoir, or is within five miles downstream of a reservoir and may flood or has flooded.



# Other Bills of Interest

- HB 412, Larson: requires a nonconference, regular-season football game between UT and TAMU on the fourth Thursday, Friday, or Saturday of November each year.
- State-funded football scholarship death penalty.



**Tuxedo Yoda** @TuxedoYoda · 11/27/18

Replying to [@chucklindell](#)

I remember when the [@GOP](#) was about small government, and not about legislating football.



**Chris Miller** @CMiller512 · 11/27/18

Yea [@RepLyleLarson](#), "real aggies" are content with Texas keeping our dominant 75-37-5 record against them. Shame on you for trying to improve that!  
[#playthegame](#)



# Questions?

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(817) 467-4343







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