

Bill by Rep. Bosse Would Send Water Board Directors to Classroom

A bill filed by Rep. Fred Bosse (D-Baytown), HB 1660, would require a director to obtain at least six hours of training within one year after election or appointment to a water board.

Training, which would be provided by the Association of Water Board Directors or other organizations, would cover (1) role and functions of the district, (2) district finances, (3) duties and responsibilities of a director, (4) TNRCC rules, (5) investment requirements, (6) open meeting law requirements, (7) open records law requirements, (8) ethics, and (9) applicable tax, election and local governmental laws.

A director who failed to complete the training or submit the certification of completion to the board would be notified by the district within 60 days and face possible removal from the board by a majority vote of the remaining directors if training were not completed. Districts would be required to reimburse directors for reasonable expenses incurred in completing the required training.

(Relax! If it passes, this law will apply only to new directors after September 1, 1997.)

In other words related legislation, a district within the extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) of two cities would be able to select, by board resolution, the city ETJ in which, it would remain (HB 2582, Hilderbran, R-Kerrville).

If SB 834 passes, counties may get into the water and sewer system business (Armbrister, D-Victoria).

Districts with general managers will be able to authorize the general manager or other employee of the district to execute documents if SB 968 passes (Lucio, D-Brownsville).