



# AUSTIN NEWSLETTER

Texas Farm Bureau's Weekly Newsletter for the 88th Legislature

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Every Friday, this newsletter will keep you up to speed on some of the legislation important to Texas Farm Bureau members that Austin staff are following.

Please do not hesitate to contact the appropriate staff with any questions.

## Border Security

**HB 2038:** Relating to the use of proceeds from the sale of forfeited property to reimburse persons who suffered agricultural property damage as a result of an offense involving the unlawful entry into the United States.

[Allison, Steve \(R\)](#)

### Summary:

HB 2038 amends the Code of Criminal Procedure to create a reimbursement program for landowners whose property was damaged by those illegally entering the United States.

This program is only available to "a county that borders the United Mexican States."

TFB **supports** HB 2038. (TFB Policy: Real Property Rights Section 150, Page 60, Lines 65-67; Real Property Rights Section 150, Page 61, Lines 153-154; General Law Enforcement Section 184, Page 120, Line 27)

## Water

**HB 2483:** Relating to financial assistance provided and programs administered by the Texas Water Development Board.

[King, Tracy \(D\)](#)

### Summary:

HB 2483 is the companion bill to [SB 837](#) authored by Sen. Charles Perry. The language is identical. For an analysis, see the SB 837 analysis covered in [a previous edition of Austin Newsletter](#).

**HJR 116:** Proposing a constitutional amendment creating the Water For Texas Fund to assist in financing water projects in this state.

[King, Tracy \(D\)](#)

**Summary:**

HJR 116 is the companion bill to [SJR 43](#) authored by Sen. Charles Perry. The language is identical. For an analysis of HJR 116, see the SJR 43 analysis covered in [a previous edition of Austin Newsletter](#).

TFB **supports** HB 2483 and HJR 116. (TFB Policy: Research Section 135, Page, 27, Lines 45-47; Water Management Section 155, Page 79, Lines 37-40 & 43-45; Water Management Section 155, Page 80, Lines 146-147)

**HB 2443:** Relating to the authority of certain persons to petition a groundwater conservation district to change certain rules.

[Harris, Cody \(R\)](#)

**Summary:**

HB 2443 gives those persons with “groundwater ownership and rights” the authority to petition their water district to change the district’s rules.

The petitioners are to explain why the requested rule change is necessary and consistent with water conservation practices. The petitioner must provide written notice to each person with groundwater ownership, and rights in the area would be affected by the proposed changes.

The district will then hold a hearing to grant or deny the petition. The district must provide an explanation for the action they take on the petition.

TFB **supports** HB 2443. (TFB 2023 Policy: Real Property Rights Section 150, Page 58, Lines 2-5; Groundwater Section 153, Page 70, Lines 57-59)

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