

Dear GEAA members and friends,

First off, **kudos to you all on a job well done!** The response to Sen. Campbell regarding her sneaky filing of two bad bills was incredible. While Sen. Campbell continued to push for a speedy hearing in the Senate State Affairs Committee, Committee Chair Senator Duncan assigned a subcommittee of Sen. Van de Putte (Chair), Sen. Ellis and Sen. Nichols to study the bills. We sincerely hope that these bills will stay in subcommittee until the end of the session.

Your help is appreciated in stopping [HB 3234](#), scheduled for a vote on the House floor on Monday (5/6). This bill would set unrealistic deadlines for TCEQ review of a water rights permit application, and would make it harder for a landowner to participate in a contested case hearing. HB 3234 would also limit the length of any contested case hearing on water rights, the issues that could be considered, and would result in an inadequate review of the application. Please urge [your Representative](#) to vote against HB 3234.

One of the "Bills We Love" - [SB 589 – Hegar, Van de Putte, Zaffirini](#) comes up for a hearing in [Senate Natural Resources](#) on Tuesday. This bill would prohibit State financing of reservoirs on the Nueces, Frio, Sabinal, San Marcos and Comal rivers within State Water Planning Region L. Your support for this great bill will help get it passed, and will be appreciated by the authors.

Another "Bill We Love" - [SB 198 – Watson](#) / [H.B. 449 - Dukes](#) that limits homeowners associations' power to prohibit installation of xeriscaped yards and rainwater collection systems is still in the [House Calendars Committee](#). A nudge to [Representative Doug Miller](#), who serves on that Committee, might be helpful in moving it toward passage. For more information [click here](#).

[HB 824](#) that set reporting thresholds for sewage spills at 1,500 gallons, and has been amended to set the threshold at 500 gallons. Spills under 500 gallons will still be reported, but on a monthly basis rather than within 24 hours. While the bill is not perfect, it is much better than the original version. Special thanks to Ken Kramer of the Lone Star Club, David Weinberg of the Texas League of Conservation Voters, and all who worked with GEAA to make this bill better.

Again, **thank you to all of you for your great response to these alerts.** From what we hear, your calls and e-mails are definitely making a difference this session. And, it looks like we stopped two stinkers.

Have a great weekend!

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