

Gulf Coast Water Conservation Symposium

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Subchapter G, Chapter 15, Texas Water Code

This subchapter governs the administration of the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT)

Subchapter H, Chapter 15, Texas Water Code

This subchapter governs the administration and authority to borrow for the benefit of the State Water Implementation Revenue Fund for Texas (SWIRFT)

Chapter 183, Texas Natural Resources Code

This chapter provides for the ability to create Conservation Easements, which are a nonpossessory interest in real property that imposes limitations or affirmative obligations designed to protect natural resources

A holder of a conservation easement may include a governmental body empowered to hold an interest in real property under the laws of Texas or the United States

Section 271.045, Texas Local Government Code

Under Section 183.006, Natural Resources Code, a county may finance the acquisition of a conservation easement by the issuance of “certificates of obligation” under Section 271.045, Local Government Code, in the same manner as financing purchases of land and rights-of-way

Certificates of obligation are public securities supported by ad valorem taxes

Chapter 1502, Texas Government Code

Under this Chapter, municipalities are granted the authority to own and operate utility systems, which include waterworks and sewer systems.

Section 1502.002(a), Government Code, authorizes municipalities to acquire, purchase or maintain any property, and interests in property, with respect to a utility system.

Section 1502.051(a), Government Code, authorizes municipalities to issue public securities to acquire property for a utility system.

House Bill 1228, Rep. Lucio

House Bill 1228 authorizes municipalities to finance “water conservation infrastructure”.

Water conservation infrastructure includes property, interests in property, or other facilities owned by a municipality or an person contracting with a municipality that is found by the governing body of the municipality to conserve, preserve, or treat water, wastewater, stormwater, or other water resources of the municipality