

# CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT FORM

Austin, Texas

MAY 29 2015

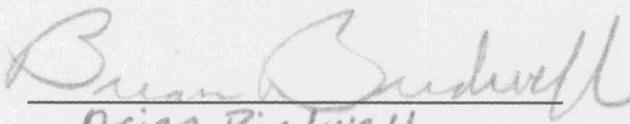
Date

Honorable Dan Patrick  
President of the Senate

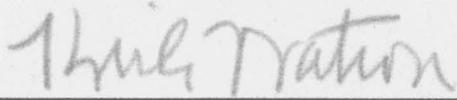
Honorable Joe Straus  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs:

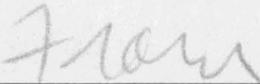
We, Your Conference Committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the Senate and the House of Representatives on Senate Bill 523 have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.



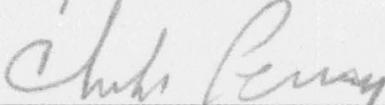
Brian Birdwell



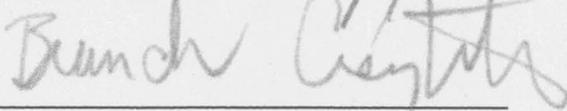
Kirk Watson



Troy Fraser



Charles Perry

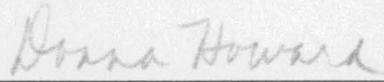


On the part of the Senate

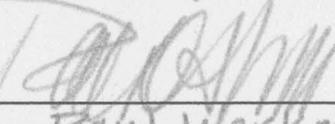
Brandon Creighton



Jim Ketter



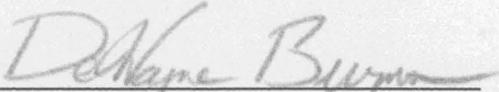
Donna Howard



Paul Workman



Trent Ashby



On the part of the House

DWAYNE BURNS

## Note to Conference Committee Clerk:

Please type the names of the members of the Conference Committee under the lines provided for signature. Those members desiring to sign the report should sign each of the six copies. Attach a copy of the Conference Committee Report and a Section by Section side by side comparison to each of the six reporting forms. The original and two copies are filed in house of origin of the bill, and three copies in the other house.

# CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

3<sup>rd</sup> Printing

S.B. No. 523

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the sunset review of river authorities.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. SUNSET ACT. Chapter 325, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 325.025 to read as follows:

Sec. 325.025. RIVER AUTHORITIES SUBJECT TO REVIEW. (a) A river authority listed in Subsection (b) is subject to a limited review under this chapter as if it were a state agency but may not be abolished.

(b) This section applies to the:

(1) Angelina and Neches River Authority;

(2) Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District;

(3) Brazos River Authority;

(4) Central Colorado River Authority;

(5) Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority;

(6) Lavaca-Navidad River Authority;

(7) Lower Colorado River Authority;

(8) Lower Neches Valley Authority;

(9) Nueces River Authority;

(10) Palo Duro River Authority of Texas;

(11) Red River Authority of Texas;

(12) Sabine River Authority of Texas;

(13) San Antonio River Authority;

- 1           (14) San Jacinto River Authority;
- 2           (15) Sulphur River Basin Authority;
- 3           (16) Trinity River Authority of Texas;
- 4           (17) Upper Colorado River Authority; and
- 5           (18) Upper Guadalupe River Authority.

6           (c) The limited review under this chapter must assess each  
7 river authority's:

- 8           (1) governance;
- 9           (2) management;
- 10          (3) operating structure; and
- 11          (4) compliance with legislative requirements.

12          (d) A river authority shall pay the cost incurred by the  
13 commission in performing a review of the authority under this  
14 section. The commission shall determine the cost, and the  
15 authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement  
16 from the commission detailing the cost.

17          (e) A river authority reviewed by the commission under this  
18 section may not be required to conduct a management audit under  
19 Chapter 292, Title 30, Texas Administrative Code.

20           SECTION 2. ANGELINA AND NECHES RIVER AUTHORITY. Subchapter  
21 A, Chapter 8501, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by  
22 adding Section 8501.0015 to read as follows:

23           Sec. 8501.0015. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. (a) The  
24 authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code  
25 (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter.  
26 The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government  
27 Code, as if the authority were a state agency scheduled to be

1 abolished September 1, 2023, and every 12th year after that year.

2 (b) The authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset  
3 Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory  
4 Commission shall determine the cost, and the authority shall pay  
5 the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset  
6 Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

7 SECTION 3. BANDERA COUNTY RIVER AUTHORITY AND GROUNDWATER  
8 DISTRICT. Chapter 629, Acts of the 62nd Legislature, Regular  
9 Session, 1971, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

10 Sec. 1A. (a) The district is subject to review under  
11 Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be  
12 abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under  
13 Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the district were a state  
14 agency scheduled to be abolished September 1, 2023, and every 12th  
15 year after that year.

16 (b) The district shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset  
17 Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory  
18 Commission shall determine the cost, and the district shall pay the  
19 amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory  
20 Commission detailing the cost.

21 SECTION 4. CENTRAL COLORADO RIVER AUTHORITY. Subchapter A,  
22 Chapter 8505, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by  
23 adding Section 8505.0021 to read as follows:

24 Sec. 8505.0021. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. (a) The  
25 authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code  
26 (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter.  
27 The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government

1 Code, as if the authority were a state agency scheduled to be  
2 abolished September 1, 2017, and every 12th year after that year.

3 (b) The authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset  
4 Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory  
5 Commission shall determine the cost, and the authority shall pay  
6 the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset  
7 Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

8 SECTION 5. GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 75,  
9 Acts of the 43rd Legislature, 1st Called Session, 1933, is amended  
10 by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

11 Sec. 1A. (a) The District is subject to review under  
12 Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be  
13 abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under  
14 Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the District were a state  
15 agency scheduled to be abolished September 1, 2019, and every 12th  
16 year after that year.

17 (b) The District shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset  
18 Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory  
19 Commission shall determine the cost, and the District shall pay the  
20 amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory  
21 Commission detailing the cost.

22 SECTION 6. LAVACA-NAVIDAD RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 186,  
23 Acts of the 50th Legislature, Regular Session, 1947, is amended by  
24 adding Section 1A to read as follows:

25 Sec. 1A. (a) The District is subject to review under  
26 Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be  
27 abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under

1 Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the District were a state  
2 agency scheduled to be abolished September 1, 2023, and every 12th  
3 year after that year.

4 (b) The District shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset  
5 Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory  
6 Commission shall determine the cost, and the District shall pay the  
7 amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory  
8 Commission detailing the cost.

9 SECTION 7. LOWER COLORADO RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 8503,  
10 Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding Section  
11 8503.0021 to read as follows:

12 Sec. 8503.0021. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. (a) The  
13 authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code  
14 (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter.  
15 The review shall not include the management of the generation or  
16 transmission of electricity under the wholesale electricity  
17 operation of the authority and the authority's affiliated nonprofit  
18 corporations. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025,  
19 Government Code, as if the authority were a state agency scheduled  
20 to be abolished September 1, 2019, and every 12th year after that  
21 year.

22 (b) In anticipation of the sunset review under Subsection  
23 (a), based on the results of an audit, including a  
24 performance-related audit, conducted by the state auditor before  
25 December 1, 2016, the state auditor may make recommendations to the  
26 legislature, including whether a review conducted under Subsection  
27 (a) should include the financial operation and management of the

1 generation or transmission of electricity under the wholesale  
2 electricity operation of the authority and the authority's  
3 affiliated nonprofit corporations.

4 (c) The authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset  
5 Advisory Commission in performing the review under Subsection (a).  
6 The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the  
7 authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement  
8 from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

9 SECTION 8. LOWER COLORADO RIVER AUTHORITY. Section  
10 8503.015, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 Sec. 8503.015. AUDITS [~~AUDIT~~]. (a) The authority is  
13 subject to the audit provisions of Subchapter G, Chapter 49, Water  
14 Code.

15 (b) The authority is subject to the audit provisions of  
16 Chapter 321, Government Code. This subsection expires January 1,  
17 2017.

18 SECTION 9. LOWER NECHES VALLEY AUTHORITY. Subchapter A,  
19 Chapter 8504, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by  
20 adding Section 8504.0021 to read as follows:

21 Sec. 8504.0021. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. (a) The  
22 authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code  
23 (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter.  
24 The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government  
25 Code, as if the authority were a state agency scheduled to be  
26 abolished September 1, 2021, and every 12th year after that year.

27 (b) The authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset

1 Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory  
2 Commission shall determine the cost, and the authority shall pay  
3 the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset  
4 Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

5 SECTION 10. NUECES RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 427, Acts of  
6 the 44th Legislature, 1st Called Session, 1935, is amended by  
7 adding Section 1.02A to read as follows:

8 Sec. 1.02A. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. (a) The authority  
9 is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas  
10 Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The  
11 review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code,  
12 as if the authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished  
13 September 1, 2019, and every 12th year after that year.

14 (b) The authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset  
15 Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory  
16 Commission shall determine the cost, and the authority shall pay  
17 the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset  
18 Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

19 SECTION 11. PALO DURO RIVER AUTHORITY OF TEXAS. Chapter  
20 438, Acts of the 63rd Legislature, Regular Session, 1973, is  
21 amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

22 Sec. 1A. (a) The Authority is subject to review under  
23 Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be  
24 abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under  
25 Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the Authority were a state  
26 agency scheduled to be abolished September 1, 2017, and every 12th  
27 year after that year.

1        (b) The Authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset  
2 Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory  
3 Commission shall determine the cost, and the Authority shall pay  
4 the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset  
5 Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

6        SECTION 12. RED RIVER AUTHORITY OF TEXAS. Chapter 279, Acts  
7 of the 56th Legislature, Regular Session, 1959, is amended by  
8 adding Section 1A to read as follows:

9        Sec. 1A. (a) The Authority is subject to review under  
10 Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be  
11 abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under  
12 Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the Authority were a state  
13 agency scheduled to be abolished September 1, 2019, and every 12th  
14 year after that year.

15        (b) The Authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset  
16 Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory  
17 Commission shall determine the cost, and the Authority shall pay  
18 the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset  
19 Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

20        SECTION 13. SABINE RIVER AUTHORITY OF TEXAS. Chapter 110,  
21 Acts of the 51st Legislature, Regular Session, 1949, is amended by  
22 adding Section 2A to read as follows:

23        Sec. 2A. (a) The district is subject to review under  
24 Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be  
25 abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under  
26 Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the district were a state  
27 agency scheduled to be abolished September 1, 2021, and every 12th

1 year after that year.

2 (b) The district shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset  
3 Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory  
4 Commission shall determine the cost, and the district shall pay the  
5 amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory  
6 Commission detailing the cost.

7 SECTION 14. BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 8502, Special  
8 District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding Section 8502.0021 to  
9 read as follows:

10 Sec. 8502.0021. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. (a) The  
11 authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code  
12 (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter.  
13 The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government  
14 Code, as if the authority were a state agency scheduled to be  
15 abolished September 1, 2021, and every 12th year after that year.

16 (b) The authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset  
17 Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory  
18 Commission shall determine the cost, and the authority shall pay  
19 the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset  
20 Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

21 SECTION 15. SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 276, Acts  
22 of the 45th Legislature, Regular Session, 1937, is amended by  
23 adding Section 1-a to read as follows:

24 Sec. 1-a. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. (a) The District is  
25 subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset  
26 Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall  
27 be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the

1 District were a state agency scheduled to be abolished September 1,  
2 2023, and every 12th year after that year.

3 (b) The District shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset  
4 Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory  
5 Commission shall determine the cost, and the District shall pay the  
6 amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory  
7 Commission detailing the cost.

8 SECTION 16. SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 426, Acts  
9 of the 45th Legislature, Regular Session, 1937, is amended by  
10 adding Section 1A to read as follows:

11 Sec. 1A. (a) The District is subject to review under  
12 Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be  
13 abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under  
14 Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the District were a state  
15 agency scheduled to be abolished September 1, 2021, and every 12th  
16 year after that year.

17 (b) The District shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset  
18 Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory  
19 Commission shall determine the cost, and the District shall pay the  
20 amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory  
21 Commission detailing the cost.

22 SECTION 17. SULPHUR RIVER BASIN AUTHORITY. Sections 1A(a)  
23 and (c), Chapter 3, Acts of the 69th Legislature, 1st Called  
24 Session, 1985, are amended to read as follows:

25 (a) The authority is subject to review under Chapter 325,  
26 Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under  
27 that chapter [~~as if it were a state agency~~]. The review shall be

1 conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the  
2 authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished September  
3 1, 2017, and every 12th year after that year [~~Unless the authority~~  
4 ~~is continued in existence, the authority is abolished and this Act~~  
5 ~~expires September 1, 2017~~].

6 (c) The authority shall pay the costs incurred by the Sunset  
7 Advisory Commission in performing the [a] review [~~of the authority~~  
8 ~~under this section~~]. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall  
9 determine the costs, and the authority shall pay the amount  
10 promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory  
11 Commission detailing the costs.

12 SECTION 18. TRINITY RIVER AUTHORITY OF TEXAS. Chapter 518,  
13 Acts of the 54th Legislature, Regular Session, 1955, is amended by  
14 adding Section 1A to read as follows:

15 Sec. 1A. (a) The Authority is subject to review under  
16 Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be  
17 abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under  
18 Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the Authority were a state  
19 agency scheduled to be abolished September 1, 2023, and every 12th  
20 year after that year.

21 (b) The Authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset  
22 Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory  
23 Commission shall determine the cost, and the Authority shall pay  
24 the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset  
25 Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

26 SECTION 19. UPPER COLORADO RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 126,  
27 General Laws, Acts of the 44th Legislature, Regular Session, 1935,

1 is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

2 Sec. 1A. (a) The District is subject to review under  
3 Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be  
4 abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under  
5 Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the District were a state  
6 agency scheduled to be abolished September 1, 2017, and every 12th  
7 year after that year.

8 (b) The District shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset  
9 Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory  
10 Commission shall determine the cost, and the District shall pay the  
11 amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory  
12 Commission detailing the cost.

13 SECTION 20. UPPER GUADALUPE RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 5,  
14 page 1062, Special Laws, Acts of the 46th Legislature, Regular  
15 Session, 1939, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

16 Sec. 1A. (a) The District is subject to review under  
17 Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be  
18 abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under  
19 Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the District were a state  
20 agency scheduled to be abolished September 1, 2021, and every 12th  
21 year after that year.

22 (b) The District shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset  
23 Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory  
24 Commission shall determine the cost, and the District shall pay the  
25 amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory  
26 Commission detailing the cost.

27 SECTION 21. REPEALER. Sections 1A(b) and (d), Chapter 3,

1 Acts of the 69th Legislature, 1st Called Session, 1985, are  
2 repealed.

3 SECTION 22. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect  
4 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members  
5 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas  
6 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for  
7 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

**Senate Bill 523**  
Conference Committee Report  
Section-by-Section Analysis

SENATE VERSION

SECTION 1. SUNSET ACT. Chapter 325, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 325.025 to read as follows:

Sec. 325.025. RIVER AUTHORITIES SUBJECT TO REVIEW. (a) A river authority listed in Subsection (b) is subject to a limited review under this chapter as if it were a state agency but may not be abolished.

(b) This section applies to the:

- (1) Angelina and Neches River Authority;
- (2) Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District;
- (3) Brazos River Authority;
- (4) Central Colorado River Authority;
- (5) Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority;
- (6) Lavaca-Navidad River Authority;
- (7) Lower Colorado River Authority;
- (8) Lower Neches Valley Authority;
- (9) Nueces River Authority;
- (10) Palo Duro River Authority of Texas;**
- (11) Red River Authority of Texas;
- (12) Sabine River Authority of Texas;
- (13) San Antonio River Authority;
- (14) San Jacinto River Authority;
- (15) Sulphur River Basin Authority;
- (16) Trinity River Authority of Texas;
- (17) Upper Colorado River Authority; and
- (18) Upper Guadalupe River Authority.

(c) The limited review under this chapter must assess each river authority's:

- (1) governance;
- (2) management;
- (3) operating structure; and

HOUSE VERSION (CS)

SECTION 1. SUNSET ACT. Chapter 325, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 325.025 to read as follows:

Sec. 325.025. RIVER AUTHORITIES SUBJECT TO REVIEW. (a) A river authority listed in Subsection (b) is subject to a limited review under this chapter as if it were a state agency but may not be abolished.

(b) This section applies to the:

- (1) Angelina and Neches River Authority;
- (2) Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District;
- (3) Brazos River Authority;
- (4) Central Colorado River Authority;
- (5) Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority;
- (6) Lavaca-Navidad River Authority;
- (7) Lower Colorado River Authority;
- (8) Lower Neches Valley Authority;
- (9) Nueces River Authority;
- (10) Palo Duro River Authority;**
- (11) Red River Authority of Texas;
- (12) Sabine River Authority of Texas;
- (13) San Antonio River Authority;
- (14) San Jacinto River Authority;
- (15) Sulphur River Basin Authority;
- (16) Trinity River Authority of Texas;
- (17) Upper Colorado River Authority; and
- (18) Upper Guadalupe River Authority.

(c) The limited review under this chapter must assess each river authority's:

- (1) governance;
- (2) management;
- (3) operating structure; and

CONFERENCE

SECTION 1. Same as House version except refers to the ***Palo Duro River Authority of Texas.***

**Senate Bill 523**  
Conference Committee Report  
Section-by-Section Analysis

SENATE VERSION

(4) compliance with legislative requirements.

(d) A river authority shall pay the cost incurred by the commission in performing a review of the authority under this section. The commission shall determine the cost, and the authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the commission detailing the cost.

(e) A river authority reviewed by the commission under this section may not be required to conduct a management audit under Chapter 292, Title 30, Texas Administrative Code, **during the five-year period after the year in which, if the authority were a state agency, the authority would be scheduled to be abolished under this chapter.**

SECTION 2. ANGELINA AND NECHES RIVER AUTHORITY. Subchapter A, Chapter 8501, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding Section 8501.0015 to read as follows:

Sec. 8501.0015. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. (a) The authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2023**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

HOUSE VERSION (CS)

(4) compliance with legislative requirements.

(d) A river authority shall pay the cost incurred by the commission in performing a review of the authority under this section. The commission shall determine the cost, and the authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the commission detailing the cost.

(e) A river authority reviewed by the commission under this section may not be required to conduct a management audit under Chapter 292, Title 30, Texas Administrative Code.

SECTION 2. ANGELINA AND NECHES RIVER AUTHORITY. Subchapter A, Chapter 8501, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding Section 8501.0015 to read as follows:

Sec. 8501.0015. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. (a) The authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2019**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

CONFERENCE

SECTION 2. Same as Senate version.

**Senate Bill 523**  
Conference Committee Report  
Section-by-Section Analysis

SENATE VERSION

SECTION 3. BANDERA COUNTY RIVER AUTHORITY AND GROUNDWATER DISTRICT. Chapter 629, Acts of the 62nd Legislature, Regular Session, 1971, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The district is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the district were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2017**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The district shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the district shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 4. CENTRAL COLORADO RIVER AUTHORITY.

SECTION 5. GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 75, Acts of the 43rd Legislature, 1st Called Session, 1933, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The District is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the District were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2021**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The District shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset

HOUSE VERSION (CS)

SECTION 3. BANDERA COUNTY RIVER AUTHORITY AND GROUNDWATER DISTRICT. Chapter 629, Acts of the 62nd Legislature, Regular Session, 1971, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The district is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the district were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2023**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The district shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the district shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 4. Same as Senate version.

SECTION 5. GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 75, Acts of the 43rd Legislature, 1st Called Session, 1933, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The District is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the District were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2017**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The District shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset

CONFERENCE

SECTION 3. Same as House version.

SECTION 4. Same as Senate version.

SECTION 5. Same as Senate version except sets the date that triggers review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), at **September 1, 2019**.

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Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the District shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 6. LAVACA-NAVIDAD RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 186, Acts of the 50th Legislature, Regular Session, 1947, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The District is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the District were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2023**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The District shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the District shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 7. LOWER COLORADO RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 8503, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding Section 8503.0021 to read as follows:

Sec. 8503.0021. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. (a) The authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished September 1, 2019, and every 12th year after that year.

HOUSE VERSION (CS)

Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the District shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 6. LAVACA-NAVIDAD RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 186, Acts of the 50th Legislature, Regular Session, 1947, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The District is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the District were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2019**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The District shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the District shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 7. LOWER COLORADO RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 8503, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding Section 8503.0021 to read as follows:

Sec. 8503.0021. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. (a) The authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. ***The review shall not include the management of the generation or transmission of electricity under the wholesale electricity operation of the authority and the authority's affiliated nonprofit***

CONFERENCE

SECTION 6. Same as Senate version.

SECTION 7. Similar to the House version except authorizes the state auditor to make recommendations to the legislature in anticipation of the sunset review of the authority, including whether a sunset review should include the financial operation and management of the generation or transmission of electricity under the wholesale electricity operation of the authority and the authority's affiliated nonprofit corporations. Those recommendations are to be based on the results of an audit, including a performance-related audit, conducted by the state auditor before December 1, 2016.

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(b) The authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

*No equivalent provision.*

*corporations.* The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished September 1, 2019, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

Same as Senate version.

SECTION 8. LOWER NECHES VALLEY AUTHORITY. Subchapter A, Chapter 8504, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding Section 8504.0021 to read as follows:

Sec. 8504.0021. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. (a) The authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished *September 1,*

SECTION 8. LOWER NECHES VALLEY AUTHORITY. Subchapter A, Chapter 8504, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding Section 8504.0021 to read as follows:

Sec. 8504.0021. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. (a) The authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished *September 1,*

SECTION 8. LOWER COLORADO RIVER AUTHORITY. Section 8503.015, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 8503.015. AUDITS [AUDIT]. (a) The authority is subject to the audit provisions of Subchapter G, Chapter 49, Water Code.

(b) The authority is subject to the audit provisions of Chapter 321, Government Code. This subsection expires January 1, 2017.

SECTION 9. Same as Senate version.

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2021, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 9. NUECES RIVER AUTHORITY.

SECTION 10. PALO DURO RIVER AUTHORITY *OF TEXAS*. Chapter 438, Acts of the 63rd Legislature, Regular Session, 1973, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The Authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the Authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2017**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The Authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the Authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 11. RED RIVER AUTHORITY OF TEXAS. Chapter 279, Acts of the 56th Legislature, Regular Session, 1959, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The Authority is subject to review under

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2019, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 9. Same as Senate version.

SECTION 10. PALO DURO RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 438, Acts of the 63rd Legislature, Regular Session, 1973, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The Authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the Authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2021**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The Authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the Authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 11. RED RIVER AUTHORITY OF TEXAS. Chapter 279, Acts of the 56th Legislature, Regular Session, 1959, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The Authority is subject to review under

CONFERENCE

SECTION 10. Same as Senate version.

SECTION 11. Same as Senate version.

SECTION 12. Same as Senate version.

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Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the Authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2019**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The Authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the Authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 12. SABINE RIVER AUTHORITY OF TEXAS.

SECTION 13. BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 8502, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding Section 8502.0021 to read as follows:

Sec. 8502.0021. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. (a) The authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2023**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 14. SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY.

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Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the Authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2021**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The Authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the Authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 12. Same as Senate version.

SECTION 13. BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 8502, Special District Local Laws Code, is amended by adding Section 8502.0021 to read as follows:

Sec. 8502.0021. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. (a) The authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2017**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 14. Same as Senate version.

CONFERENCE

SECTION 13. Same as Senate version.

SECTION 14. Same as Senate version except sets the date that triggers review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), at **September 1, 2021**.

SECTION 15. Same as Senate version.

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SECTION 15. SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 426, Acts of the 45th Legislature, Regular Session, 1937, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The District is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the District were a state agency scheduled to be abolished *September 1, 2021*, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The District shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the District shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 16. SULPHUR RIVER BASIN AUTHORITY. Sections 1A(a) and (c), Chapter 3, Acts of the 69th Legislature, 1st Called Session, 1985, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter [as if it were a state agency]. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished *September 1, 2017*, and every 12th year after that year [Unless the authority is continued in existence, the authority is abolished and this Act expires September 1, 2017].

(c) The authority shall pay the costs incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the [a] review [of the authority under this section]. The Sunset Advisory

HOUSE VERSION (CS)

SECTION 15. SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 426, Acts of the 45th Legislature, Regular Session, 1937, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The District is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the District were a state agency scheduled to be abolished *September 1, 2023*, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The District shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the District shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 16. SULPHUR RIVER BASIN AUTHORITY. Sections 1A(a) and (c), Chapter 3, Acts of the 69th Legislature, 1st Called Session, 1985, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter [as if it were a state agency]. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished *September 1, 2023*, and every 12th year after that year [Unless the authority is continued in existence, the authority is abolished and this Act expires September 1, 2017].

(c) The authority shall pay the costs incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the [a] review [of the authority under this section]. The Sunset Advisory

CONFERENCE

SECTION 16. Same as Senate version.

SECTION 17. Same as Senate version.

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Commission shall determine the costs, and the authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the costs.

SECTION 17. TRINITY RIVER AUTHORITY OF TEXAS. Chapter 518, Acts of the 54th Legislature, Regular Session, 1955, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The Authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the Authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2021**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The Authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the Authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 18. UPPER COLORADO RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 126, General Laws, Acts of the 44th Legislature, Regular Session, 1935, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The District is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the District were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2017**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The District shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset

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Commission shall determine the costs, and the authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the costs.

SECTION 17. TRINITY RIVER AUTHORITY OF TEXAS. Chapter 518, Acts of the 54th Legislature, Regular Session, 1955, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The Authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the Authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2023**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The Authority shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the Authority shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 18. UPPER COLORADO RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 126, General Laws, Acts of the 44th Legislature, Regular Session, 1935, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The District is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the District were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2021**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The District shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset

CONFERENCE

SECTION 18. Same as House version.

SECTION 19. Same as Senate version.

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Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the District shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 19. UPPER GUADALUPE RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 5, page 1062, Special Laws, Acts of the 46th Legislature, Regular Session, 1939, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The District is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the District were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2019**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The District shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the District shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 20. REPEALER. Sections 1A(b) and (d), Chapter 3, Acts of the 69th Legislature, 1st Called Session, 1985, are repealed.

SECTION 21. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive

HOUSE VERSION (CS)

Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the District shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 19. UPPER GUADALUPE RIVER AUTHORITY. Chapter 5, page 1062, Special Laws, Acts of the 46th Legislature, Regular Session, 1939, is amended by adding Section 1A to read as follows:

Sec. 1A. (a) The District is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the District were a state agency scheduled to be abolished **September 1, 2021**, and every 12th year after that year.

(b) The District shall pay the cost incurred by the Sunset Advisory Commission in performing the review. The Sunset Advisory Commission shall determine the cost, and the District shall pay the amount promptly on receipt of a statement from the Sunset Advisory Commission detailing the cost.

SECTION 20. Same as Senate version.

SECTION 21. Same as Senate version.

CONFERENCE

SECTION 20. Same as House version.

SECTION 21. Same as Senate version.

SECTION 22. Same as Senate version.

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the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect  
September 1, 2015.

HOUSE VERSION (CS)

CONFERENCE

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**May 30, 2015**

**TO:** Honorable Dan Patrick, Lieutenant Governor, Senate  
 Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE:** SB523 by Birdwell (Relating to the sunset review of river authorities.), **Conference Committee Report**

**Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds** for SB523, Conference Committee Report: an impact of \$0 through the biennium ending August 31, 2017.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

**General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2016	\$0
2017	\$0
2018	\$0
2019	\$0
2020	\$0

**All Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

Fiscal Year	Probable (Cost) from <i>Appropriated Receipts</i> 666	Probable Revenue Gain from <i>Appropriated Receipts</i> 666	Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2015
2016	(\$224,318)	\$224,318	2.0
2017	(\$23,257)	\$23,257	2.0
2018	(\$638,453)	\$638,453	4.0
2019	(\$69,772)	\$69,772	4.0
2020	(\$581,180)	\$581,180	5.0

## **Fiscal Analysis**

The bill makes 18 Texas river authorities subject to review by the Sunset Advisory Commission (Commission), but not abolishment, from fiscal years 2017 to 2023, and every 12 years thereafter. The bill establishes a schedule for reviewing all of the authorities over the next four biennia. The bill requires each river authority to pay the cost of the review as determined by the Commission, and requires the agency to review each authority's governance, management, operating structure, and compliance with legislative requirements.

The bill would authorize the State Auditor's Office (SAO) to perform an audit of the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) before December 1, 2016, and make recommendations to the Legislature. The bill would take effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all members elected to each house. If the bill does not receive the votes required to pass, the bill would take effect September 1, 2015.

## **Methodology**

The requirement for the Commission to conduct a limited review of river authorities on the schedule established by the bill would result in costs to the Commission of \$247,575 during the FY 2016-2017 biennium, and \$1,536,980 over the next five fiscal years. All of these costs would be reimbursed by the river authorities. Each river authority would continue to pay similar costs every 12 years for subsequent Sunset reviews as long as the bill is in effect.

According to the Commission, the review would cost approximately \$11,075 per analyst assigned to a team, per month. Estimated costs for each review assumes 90 percent of the time required to conduct the review would be needed in even-numbered fiscal years, as this is when the Commission's workload is more intensive, and that all travel would occur during even-numbered years. The analysis assumes river authority reviews are in addition to the Commission's body of work assigned for each of the next four biennia, and would result in the need for additional staff to conduct these reviews, including two additional full-time staff in the 2016-17 biennium. According to SAO, costs associated with performing an audit of LCRA would not be significant and could be absorbed within existing resources.

## **Local Government Impact**

There would be a cost to river authorities for reimbursing the Commission for their services. Costs to river authorities scheduled for evaluation in the 2016-17 biennium, including the Central Colorado River Authority, Palo Duro River Authority of Texas, Sulphur River Basin Authority and Upper Colorado River Authority are estimated to be \$61,893 per river authority. River authorities may also experience additional internal costs to comply with provisions of the bill.

**Source Agencies:** 116 Sunset Advisory Commission, 308 State Auditor's Office, LCR Lower Colorado River Authority

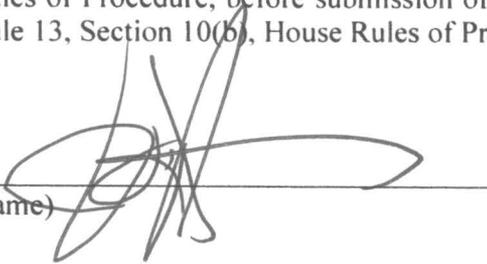
**LBB Staff:** UP, PM, SZ, JJ

**Certification of Compliance with  
Rule 13, Section 6(b), House Rules of Procedure**

Rule 13, Section 6(b), House Rules of Procedure, requires a copy of a conference committee report signed by a majority of each committee of the conference to be furnished to each member of the committee in person or, if unable to deliver in person, by placing a copy in the member's newspaper mailbox at least one hour before the report is furnished to each member of the house under Rule 13, Section 10(a). The paper copies of the report submitted to the chief clerk under Rule 13, Section 10(b), must contain a certificate that the requirement of Rule 13, Section 6(b), has been satisfied, and that certificate must be attached to the copy of the report furnished to each member under Rule 13, Section 10(d). Failure to comply with this requirement is not a sustainable point of order under Rule 13.

I certify that a copy of the conference committee report on SB 523 was furnished to each member of the conference committee in compliance with Rule 13, Section 6(b), House Rules of Procedure, before submission of the paper copies of the report to the chief clerk under Rule 13, Section 10(b), House Rules of Procedure.

(name)

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke, written over a horizontal line.

5/29/2015  
(date)