

SUBJECT: Validation of navigation districts

COMMITTEE: Natural Resources — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 7 ayes — Counts, Yost, Combs, Corte, King, Puente, Walker
0 nays
1 present not voting — R. Lewis
1 absent — Stiles

WITNESSES: For — Pat Younger, Texas Ports Association; Leo J. Welder Jr., Port of Corpus Christi Authority of Nueces City
Against — None

BACKGROUND: A navigation district is a special purpose district created by the Legislature to develop deep water navigation and improve rivers, bays, creeks, streams and maintain canals and/or water ways of navigation.
Navigation districts also have the authority to acquire, construct and operate wharfs, docks and other structures necessary for navigation.

DIGEST: HB 2177 would validate and confirm all navigation district acts and governmental proceedings taken before the effective date of HB 2177, and all navigation district commissioners and officials who took office before the effective date the bill.
All bonds and other obligations of a navigation district authorized before the effective date would also be validated and confirmed.
HB 2177 would not confirm or validate the following:

- an act, proceeding, bond or obligation that is the subject of litigation pending on the effective date;

- a commissioner or official who is the subject of litigation that is pending on the effective date.

The bill would take effect immediately if approved by two-thirds the membership of each house.