

- SUBJECT:** Nonsubstantive recodification of special district local laws
- COMMITTEE:** State Affairs — favorable, with amendment
- VOTE:** 8 ayes — Marchant, Madden, J. Davis, B. Cook, Elkins, Gattis, Goodman, Lewis
- 0 nays
- 1 absent — Villarreal
- WITNESSES:** For — None
- Against — None
- On — Jeffrey J. Thorne, Texas Legislative Council Legal Division
- BACKGROUND:** Under Government Code, sec. 323.007, the Texas Legislative Council is required to make periodic revisions to Texas statutes to make them more accessible, understandable and usable without altering the sense, meaning or effect of the law. As part of this process, the Legislative Council reclassifies and rearranges statutes in a more logical order; employs a numbering system and format that will accommodate future expansion of the law; eliminates repealed, invalid and duplicative provisions; and improves the draftsmanship of the law.
- DIGEST:** HB 3508, as amended, would enact a new Special District Local Laws Code, repealing various statutes involving local districts and recodifying them under six titles:
- general provisions;
 - environment and sanitation;
 - health, including local hospital districts;
 - development and improvement, including agricultural development districts, defense base development, and development, improvement, and management districts;

- transportation, including navigation districts, port authorities, and road and road utility districts; and
- water and wastewater, including drainage districts, fresh water supply districts, special utility districts, irrigation districts, levee improvement districts, municipal utility districts, river authorities, districts governing groundwater, water control and improvement districts, water improvement districts, seawall commissions, and districts with combined powers.

The bill would state legislative intent that HB 3508 is a nonsubstantive recodification authorized by Art. 3, sec. 43 of the Texas Constitution. It would preserve in effect any validating laws repealed by the bill.

The bill would take effect April 1, 2005.

NOTES:

The committee amendment would revise the procedure for designating a bank depository for the Angleton-Danbury Hospital District in Brazoria County.

The companion bill, SB 1343 by Harris, has been referred to the Senate Administration Committee.