










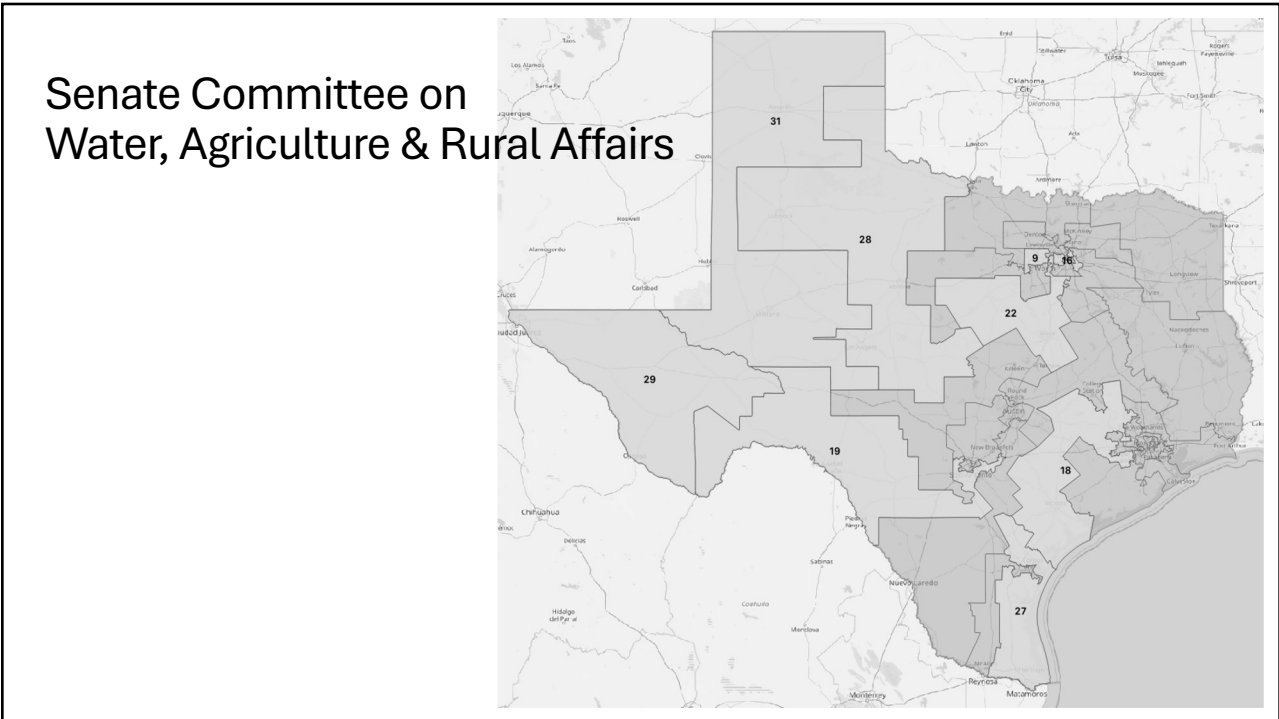


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**Senate Committee on  
Water, Agriculture & Rural Affairs [WARA]**

 <p><i>Chairman</i> <b>Sen. Charles Perry (R)</b> District 28</p>	 <p><i>Vice-Chair</i> <b>Sen. Kelly Hancock (R)</b> District 9</p>		
 <p><b>Sen. Lois Kolkhorst (R)</b> District 18</p>	 <p><b>Sen. Brian Birdwell (R)</b> District 22</p>	 <p><b>Sen. Kevin Sparks (R)</b> District 31</p>	 <p><b>Sen. Adam Hinojosa (R)</b> District 27</p>
 <p><b>Sen. Nathan Johnson (D)</b> District 16</p>	 <p><b>Sen. César Blanco (D)</b> District 29</p>	 <p><b>Sen. Roland Gutierrez (D)</b> District 19</p>	

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Senate Committee on  
Water, Agriculture & Rural Affairs

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## House Natural Resources Committee [HNRC] 1 of 2

 <p><i>Chairman</i> <b>Rep. Cody Harris (R)</b> District 8</p>	 <p><i>Vice-Chair</i> <b>Rep. Armando Martinez (D)</b> District 39</p>	
 <p><b>Rep. Trent Ashby (R)</b> District 9</p>	 <p><b>Rep. Jeff Barry (R)</b> District 29</p>	 <p><b>Rep. Cecil Bell (R)</b> District 3</p>
 <p><b>Rep. Brad Buckley (R)</b> District 54</p>	 <p><b>Rep. Caroline Fairly (R)</b> District 87</p>	 <p><b>Rep. Erin Gámez (D)</b> District 38</p>

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# House Natural Resources Committee [HNRC]

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**Rep. Josey Garcia (D)**  
District 124



**Rep. Mary González (D)**  
District 75



**Rep. Erin Zwiener (D)**  
District 45



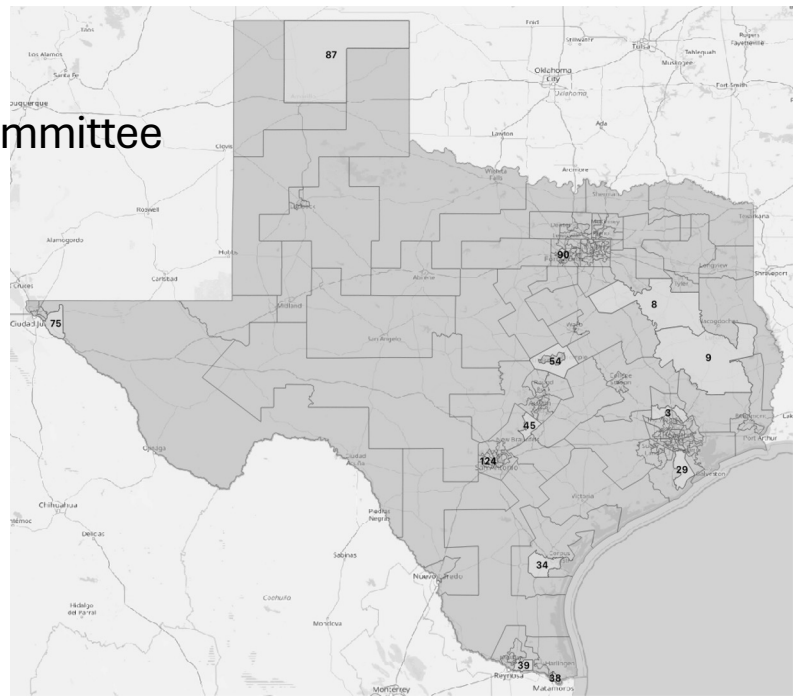
**Rep. Denise Villalobos (R)**  
District 34



**Rep. Ramon Romero, Jr. (D)**  
District 90

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## House Natural Resources Committee



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## Dedicated funding for water infrastructure

- Requires constitutional amendment
- Recommended since passage of Senate Bill 1 (1997)
- TX Highway system benefitted from **State Highway Fund** [2015]
- Established **State Water Fund** [2023]
- Texas has *State Water Plan* (\$80 billion) & *State Flood Plan* (\$54.5 billion)
- Projects for these *plans* lack predicable funding

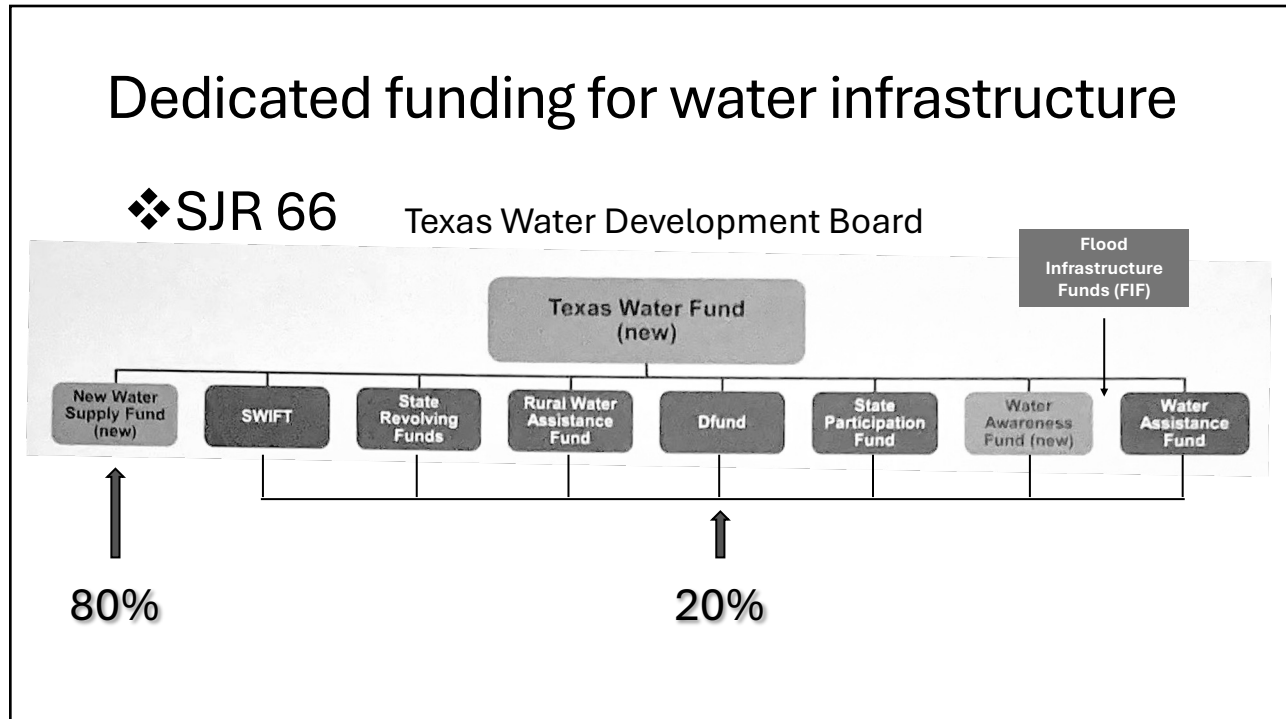
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## Dedicated funding for water infrastructure

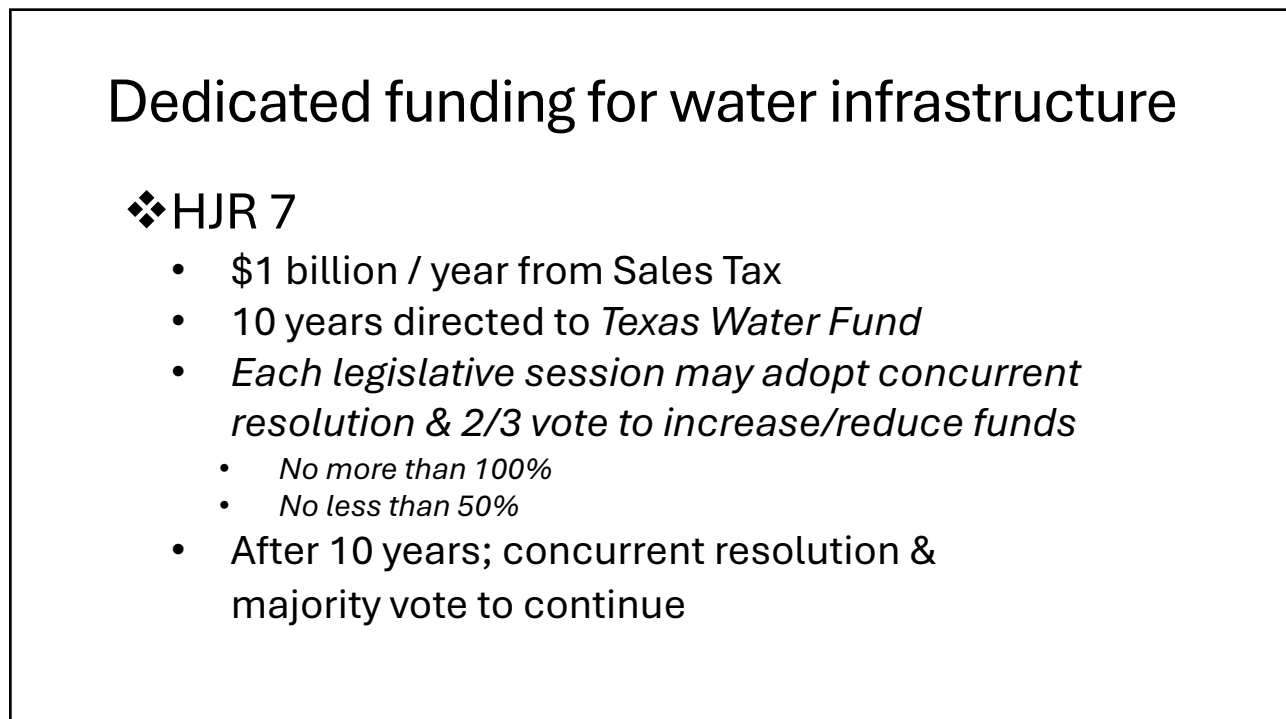
### ❖ SJR 66 (31 Senators in agreement)

- \$1 billion / year for *Texas Water Fund*
  - \$500 million Sales Tax
  - \$500 million Insurance Premium Taxes
- First 10-years 80% directed to *New Water Supply for Texas Fund (NWSFTF)*
- After 10 years; may adopt concurrent resolution & 2/3 vote to reduce to distribution to no less than 50% *NWSFTF*

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## Water Bills (sample – there are many more)

- **HB 1245** *Goodwin* – prohibit watering nonfunctional turf in drought
- **HB 1344** *Troxclair* – prioritize high growth areas for TWDB revolving funds
- **HB 1400** *Harris*/ **SB 718** *Kolkhorst* – groundwater science fund for poor GCDs
- **HB 1523** *Gerdes* – prohibit TCEQ to permit ASR injection wells in Bastrop/Lee
- **HB 1633** *Gerdes*/ **SB 624** *Kolkhorst* – Consider registered exempt wells in permitting
- **HB 1689** *Gerdes* – foundation for possible GCD joint mitigation fund
- **HB 1690** *Gerdes* – Improved notice of export permits to adjacent areas
- **HB 2034** *Gerdes* – prohibit groundwater permits by certain foreign entities
- **HB 2605** *Gerdes*/ **SB 1190** *Perry* – municipal water loss, authorizing penalties
- **HB 2812** *Isaac* – exempt public water supply wells from Hays Trinity GCD

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## Biosolid Bills

- **HB 1674** *Kerwin*/ **SB 886** *Sparks* – production, sale, and use of certain agricultural products containing PFAS substances
- **HB 768** *Menéndez*/ **HB 1730** *Morales Shaw* – study effects of PFAS chemicals on public health

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## Biosolid Bills HB 1674 Kerwin/ SB 886 Sparks

### Concerns expressed at Texas Water Association

- EPA tests of biosolid samples from Texas exceed thresholds in the HB 1674/SB 886. As written:
  - Thresholds would require all current biosolids, thousands of tons generated each day in Texas, to be disposed in a hazardous waste landfill or incarcerated.
    - *Current incineration technology does not destroy PFAS, only makes it airborne.*
- Inclusion of “septage” – solids pumped out of a septic system – might require thousands of PFAS tests to be conducted by small pumpers across the state.

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## Biosolid Bills HB 1674 Kerwin/ SB 886 Sparks

### Concerns expressed by EPA

- EPA released a draft Sewage Sludge Risk Assessment for PFOA & PFOS
- Slides from Public Webinar, January 15, 2025
- One part per billion exposure for 10 years may result in cancer in 1/1000 persons

### EPA on pause

- The standards for drinking water and biosolids were challenged in court.
- EPA recently announced they will hold cases in “abeyance.”
- **TCEQ** is waiting on EPA and Texas Legislature to give direction

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