

By: Representative Rushing

To: Municipalities

HOUSE BILL NO. 569

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 21-27-17, 21-27-23, 21-27-39 AND  
 2 77-3-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT THE PUBLIC  
 3 SERVICE COMMISSION SHALL DETERMINE THE RATES FOR WATER SERVICE  
 4 PROVIDED BY A MUNICIPALITY FOR CONSUMERS OUTSIDE OF THE  
 5 MUNICIPALITY'S CORPORATE BOUNDARIES; TO BRING FORWARD SECTIONS  
 6 19-5-177 AND 51-8-31, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH RELATE TO  
 7 WATER DISTRICTS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; AND FOR  
 8 RELATED PURPOSES.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

10 **SECTION 1.** Section 21-27-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
 11 amended as follows:

12 21-27-17. The commission provided for by Section 21-27-13 is  
 13 authorized to make such bylaws for the holding and conduct of its  
 14 meetings and such other regulations as it may deem necessary for  
 15 the safe, economic and efficient management and protection of the  
 16 system or systems, and such bylaws and regulations shall have the  
 17 same validity as an ordinance duly passed by the governing  
 18 authorities of any municipality.

19 It is authorized to elect such officers and appoint such  
 20 employees as may be necessary to operate the system or systems  
 21 efficiently, and it shall have the entire control and management



22 of such system or systems, together with all property connected or  
23 appertaining in any manner to such system or systems. The  
24 commission shall have the authority to employ a superintendent or  
25 manager of the systems, who shall have actual charge of the  
26 management and operation thereof and of the enforcement and  
27 execution of all the rules, regulations, programs, plans and  
28 decisions made and adopted by the commission in making purchases  
29 for materials and supplies to be used in the operation of the  
30 systems. In addition to any other purchasing authority granted by  
31 law, the commission may purchase electric transmission line  
32 materials, electric distribution system substation equipment,  
33 transformer equipment, and all other appliances, apparatus,  
34 machinery, equipment and appurtenances necessary for the sale of  
35 electricity, such as utility vehicles and fencing, from the  
36 surplus inventory of the Tennessee Valley Authority or any other  
37 similar agency of the federal government and electric power  
38 associations. These purchases shall be exempt from the public bid  
39 requirements prescribed in Sections 31-7-12 and 31-7-13. However,  
40 for all other purchases, the commission shall advertise for  
41 competitive bids in the manner and form as is required in  
42 accordance with Section 31-7-13. The superintendent or manager  
43 shall make and keep full and proper books and records of all  
44 purchases and shall submit them to the commission for its approval  
45 and ratification before payment thereof is authorized to be made.  
46 The commission may authorize the superintendent or manager to



47 immediately refund to a customer of the municipally owned utility  
48 his or her deposit for municipal utility services after the  
49 superintendent or manager has determined that payment for all  
50 services and any other obligations which the customer may have  
51 incurred in regard to the municipal utility has been made. It  
52 shall have the right to fix the salaries and term of office of all  
53 employees and to direct them in the discharge of their duties. It  
54 shall have the right to require good and sufficient bonds from all  
55 officers and employees in such amounts as it may deem proper. It  
56 shall have the right to discharge employees when found inefficient  
57 or for other good cause. It shall have the power to make and  
58 collect rates for services and facilities \* \* \* however, the  
59 rates for water services and facilities for consumers who reside  
60 outside of the municipality's corporate boundaries shall be  
61 determined by the Public Service Commission. The commission may  
62 and appropriate funds for the maintenance and improvements of such  
63 systems. It is authorized to borrow from the Mississippi  
64 Development Bank in order to fund advance purchases of energy for  
65 gas producing, generating, transmission or distribution system or  
66 its electric generating, transmission or distribution system. It  
67 is authorized to insure all property used in the operation of such  
68 systems, including buildings, furniture, books and records,  
69 against loss by fire and tornado, and to carry sufficient amount  
70 of employers liability, steam boiler, plate glass and other  
71 miscellaneous casualty insurance, as in the discretion of the



72 commission may be deemed proper, and to pay premiums therefor out  
73 of the funds derived from the operation of the systems. It shall  
74 report quarterly to the governing authorities of the municipality  
75 of all its doings and transactions of every kind whatsoever and  
76 shall make a complete statement of the financial condition of the  
77 systems at the end of each quarter, and shall annually make a  
78 detailed statement covering the entire management and operation of  
79 the systems, with any recommendations which it may have for the  
80 further development of the systems. At any time, the commission,  
81 by order or resolution, may authorize the expansion of activities  
82 of any component facility to include processing of materials on a  
83 custom basis or the processing and marketing of materials acquired  
84 to fully and efficiently utilize existing plant capacity. It  
85 shall also provide copies of all such quarterly and annual reports  
86 and statements to the Public Service Commission when so directed  
87 under Section 77-3-6.

88         The commission provided for by Section 21-27-13 is also  
89 authorized to allow a municipally owned utility to prepay the  
90 utility's bills to those electricity suppliers which offer early  
91 payment discounts to the municipally owned utility.

92         **SECTION 2.** Section 21-27-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
93 amended as follows:

94         21-27-23. Any municipality may:



95 (a) Borrow money and issue revenue bonds therefor  
96 solely for the purposes specified in this section and by the  
97 procedure provided in Sections 21-27-41 through 21-27-69.

98 Money may be borrowed and bonds issued by any municipality of  
99 the State of Mississippi, as defined in Section 21-27-11, to  
100 acquire or improve any waterworks system, water supply system,  
101 sewerage system, sewage disposal system, garbage disposal system,  
102 rubbish disposal system or incinerators, gas producing system, gas  
103 generating system, gas transmission system, or gas distribution  
104 system, electric generating, transmission or distribution system,  
105 railroad transportation system for passengers and freight, or  
106 motor vehicle transportation system, including any combination of  
107 any or all of those systems into one (1) system, within or without  
108 the corporate limits thereof, for the purpose of supplying the  
109 municipality and the persons and corporations, both public and  
110 private, whether within or without its corporate limits, with the  
111 services and facilities afforded by the system, provided that  
112 water, electric energy, or gas afforded by any system or systems  
113 may be supplied to such ultimate consumers thereof by sale thereof  
114 to the owners or operators of a distribution system for resale to  
115 the public. Any municipality which shall borrow money and issue  
116 revenue bonds to provide funds with which to acquire a gas  
117 transmission system, if necessary in order to reach and obtain a  
118 source of supply of gas for the municipality, may extend or  
119 construct its gas transmission line into an adjoining state, and



120 may use and expend part of the proceeds of such issue of revenue  
121 bonds for the purpose.

122 (b) To assume all indebtedness for any system or  
123 systems which may be acquired under the provisions of this section  
124 as all or part of the consideration for the acquisition of such  
125 system or systems and to issue its revenue bonds in exchange for  
126 the bonds or notes evidencing the indebtedness.

127 (c) To acquire or improve any system which it is  
128 authorized to borrow money and issue revenue bonds under  
129 subsection (a) of this section to acquire or improve; and to make  
130 contracts in furtherance thereof or in connection therewith.

131 (d) To own, operate and maintain any such system or  
132 combination of any and all of said systems into one (1) system.

133 (e) To establish, maintain and collect rates for the  
134 facilities and services offered by any such system; \* \* \* however,  
135 the rates for water facilities and services for consumers outside  
136 of the municipality's corporate boundaries shall be determined by  
137 the Public Service Commission. If there \* \* \* are a combination  
138 of systems into one or more systems, the municipality establishing  
139 the same \* \* \* is empowered to establish, maintain and collect  
140 rates for any and all of the services or for any combination  
141 thereof, and the municipality may discontinue any or all of the  
142 services upon any failure to promptly pay the charges fixed for  
143 the services. The rates so fixed for services rendered by any  
144 system or combination thereof may be charged for all services



145 rendered thereby, regardless of whether the services may have been  
146 previously rendered without rates or charges therefor by the  
147 previously existing waterworks system, water supply system,  
148 sewerage system, sewage disposal system, garbage disposal system,  
149 rubbish disposal system or incinerators, gas producing system, gas  
150 generating system, gas transmission system, or gas distribution  
151 system, electric generating, transmission or distribution system,  
152 which shall have been merged into the combined system. Any such  
153 municipality may pledge for the payment of any bonds issued to  
154 acquire or improve any such combined system, or to refund any  
155 bonds previously issued to acquire or improve any such combined  
156 system or to acquire or improve any system merged with such  
157 combined system, the revenues to be derived from the operation of  
158 such combined system, including the charges authorized to be  
159 imposed by this section.

160 A municipality may authorize a municipally owned utility to  
161 make early payment of the utility's bills to its electricity  
162 suppliers which offer early payment discounts to the municipally  
163 owned utility. The municipality may immediately refund to a  
164 customer of the municipally owned utility his or her deposit for  
165 municipal utility services after the municipal utility has  
166 determined that payment for all services and any other obligations  
167 which the customer may have incurred in regard to the municipal  
168 utility has been made.



169           If the revenues of any previously existing system being  
170 merged into a combined system are subject to a prior lien, the  
171 revenues and the expenses of any previously existing system shall  
172 be accounted for separately to the extent necessary to satisfy the  
173 covenants relating to the prior lien for so long as the  
174 indebtedness secured by the revenues shall remain outstanding.  
175 Only surplus revenues remaining after the satisfaction of all  
176 covenants relating to the outstanding indebtedness may be pledged  
177 to the retirement of any indebtedness to be secured by the  
178 revenues of a combined system. The existence of the outstanding  
179 indebtedness shall not, in and of itself, prevent the combining of  
180 systems as herein provided, so long as the prior lien on the  
181 revenues of any previously existing system is fully satisfied from  
182 the revenues of the previously existing system.

183           (f) To acquire property, real or personal, which may be  
184 necessary to effectuate the powers conferred by this section. The  
185 municipality may purchase electric transmission line materials,  
186 electric distribution system substation equipment, transformer  
187 equipment, and all other appliances, apparatus, machinery,  
188 equipment and appurtenances necessary for the sale of electricity,  
189 such as utility vehicles and fencing, from the surplus inventory  
190 of the Tennessee Valley Authority or any other similar agency of  
191 the federal government and electric power associations. These  
192 purchases by the municipality shall be exempt from the public bid  
193 requirements prescribed in Sections 31-7-12 and 31-7-13. If the





194 power of eminent domain is exercised, it shall be exercised in the  
195 manner provided by Sections 11-27-1 through 11-27-51.

196 (g) To enter into contract with the United States of  
197 America or any agency thereof, under the provisions of acts of the  
198 Congress of the United States, to aid or encourage public works  
199 and the regulations made in pursuance thereof, for the sale of  
200 bonds issued in accordance with the provisions of Sections  
201 21-27-41 through 21-27-69 or for the acceptance of a grant to aid  
202 such municipality in acquiring or improving any such system; and  
203 the contracts may contain terms and conditions as may be agreed  
204 upon by and between the municipality and the United States of  
205 America or any agency thereof, or any purchaser of the bonds.

206 (h) To adopt the ordinances and resolutions and to do  
207 all things and perform all acts necessary, proper or desirable to  
208 effectuate the full intent and purpose of Sections 21-27-11  
209 through 21-27-69, including processing, marketing, custom  
210 processing, sale and resale of materials processed through any  
211 facility under its jurisdiction.

212 (i) To borrow from the Mississippi Development Bank in  
213 order to fund the advance purchase of energy for its gas  
214 producing, generating, transmission or distribution system or its  
215 electric generating, transmission or distribution system.

216 (j) Enter into an interlocal agreement in accordance  
217 with Section 21-27-75.



218           **SECTION 3.** Section 21-27-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
219 amended as follows:

220           21-27-39. All municipalities owning or operating any system  
221 or systems may supply consumers residing outside of and within  
222 five (5) miles of the corporate limits of the municipality. In  
223 any county traversed by two (2) or more natural gas transmission  
224 lines and having therein two (2) or more natural gas compressor  
225 stations engaged in rendering service in interstate commerce, and  
226 wherein a natural gas transmission line of a municipality can be  
227 laid wholly in alluvial soil, where it is necessary for any  
228 municipality having a population of less than one thousand  
229 (1,000), according to the federal census of 1950, to construct a  
230 gas transmission line for a distance of more than five (5) miles  
231 but not more than eleven (11) miles from its corporate limits to  
232 the nearest point at which an adequate supply of natural gas can  
233 be obtained, and where there are not less than two hundred (200)  
234 prospective gas customers residing outside the corporate limits of  
235 such municipality but along and within one-half (1/2) mile of the  
236 gas transmission line so constructed by the municipality, then and  
237 in that event, the municipality may supply natural gas to such  
238 customers. Any municipality having its own natural gas  
239 transmission system in any county bordering the State of Alabama,  
240 in which U.S. Highway No. 78 and State Highway No. 25 intersect,  
241 and in which there is a publicly supported junior college, may  
242 extend its transmission lines and supply customers within the



243 county for a distance of fifteen (15) miles from the corporate  
244 limits. Any municipality having a population of less than one  
245 thousand (1,000) people, according to the federal census of 1960,  
246 and being located in the county in which U.S. Highway 51 and U.S.  
247 Highway 82 intersect, and in the county where the main line of  
248 Illinois Central Railroad and Columbus and Greenville Railroad  
249 intersect, may construct a gas transmission line and supply  
250 customers within a four-county area for a distance of forty-five  
251 (45) miles from the corporate limits of the municipality. Any  
252 municipality having its own water distribution system, the  
253 construction or expansion of which has been financed in whole or  
254 in part by an agency of the United States government, and having a  
255 population of less than five hundred (500) persons, and located in  
256 a county in which Mississippi State Highways Number 12 and Number  
257 429 intersect, may construct, expand and operate its water  
258 distribution system within the county or adjoining counties for a  
259 distance of fifteen (15) miles from the corporate limits. Any  
260 municipality having its own water distribution system, the  
261 construction or expansion of which has been financed in whole or  
262 in part by an agency of the United States government, and having a  
263 population of less than fifteen hundred (1500) persons, and  
264 located in a county in which Highway 15 and Highway 32 intersect  
265 and has a national forest, may construct, expand and operate its  
266 water distribution system within the county or adjoining counties  
267 for a distance of fifteen (15) miles from the corporate limits.



268 Any municipality having its own water distribution system and  
269 located in a county having two (2) judicial districts, and in  
270 which Mississippi Highways 17 and 35 intersect, may construct,  
271 expand and operate its water distribution system within the county  
272 or adjoining counties for a distance of fifteen (15) miles from  
273 the corporate limits. Any municipality having its own water  
274 distribution system, wherein U.S. Highway 51 and Mississippi  
275 Highway 35 intersect, and located in a county in which U.S.  
276 Highway 82 and Mississippi Highway 17 intersect, may construct,  
277 expand and operate its water distribution system within the county  
278 or adjoining counties for a distance of fifteen (15) miles from  
279 the corporate limits. Whenever such service shall be furnished to  
280 any consumer residing outside the corporate limits thereof, such  
281 consumer may not be charged at a rate greater than twice the rate  
282 charged for such services within the municipality.

283 The rates for water services provided by a municipality to a  
284 consumer who resides outside of the municipality's corporate  
285 boundaries shall be determined by the Public Service Commission.

286 Any municipality located within a county bordering the  
287 Mississippi River and in which Highways 49 and 61 intersect may  
288 acquire, construct, expand and operate its railroad transportation  
289 system for the transportation of passengers and freight for more  
290 than five (5) miles outside its corporate limits and outside the  
291 boundaries of the county in which it is located. Any municipality  
292 having a population of more than forty-five thousand (45,000) but



293 less than forty-five thousand one hundred (45,100) according to  
294 the 1970 federal decennial census, may expand its motor vehicle  
295 transportation system for the transportation of passengers for  
296 more than five (5) miles outside its corporate limits.

297 Any municipality having a population of less than five  
298 hundred (500) according to the 1980 federal decennial census,  
299 being located north of U.S. Highway 82 in a county in which is  
300 located a United States Air Force base and a state-supported  
301 institution of higher learning established primarily for women,  
302 which criteria the Legislature finds to be conducive to the  
303 expansion of natural gas service to support contiguous areas of  
304 such Air Force base, may construct, own and/or operate a public  
305 utility or natural gas system and supply customers within the  
306 county for a distance of eleven (11) miles from the corporate  
307 limits.

308 **SECTION 4.** Section 77-3-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
309 amended as follows:

310 77-3-1. Except as otherwise provided in Section 77-3-6 and  
311 Section 21-27-39, any public utility as defined in paragraph (d)  
312 of Section 77-3-3, owned or operated by a municipality shall not  
313 be subject to the provisions of this article, except as to  
314 extension of utilities \* \* \* outside of its corporate  
315 boundaries \* \* \*.

316 **SECTION 5.** Section 19-5-177, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
317 brought forward as follows:



318 19-5-177. (1) Any district created under Sections 19-5-151  
319 through 19-5-207, acting by and through the board of commissioners  
320 of such district as its governing authority, shall have the  
321 following, among other, powers:

322 (a) To sue and be sued;

323 (b) To acquire by purchase, gift, devise and lease or  
324 any other mode of acquisition, other than by eminent domain, hold  
325 and dispose of real and personal property of every kind within or  
326 without the district;

327 (c) To make and enter into contracts, conveyances,  
328 mortgages, deeds of trust, bonds, leases or contracts for  
329 financial advisory services;

330 (d) To incur debts, to borrow money, to issue  
331 negotiable bonds, and to provide for the rights of the holders  
332 thereof;

333 (e) To fix, maintain, collect and revise rates and  
334 charges for services rendered by or through the facilities of such  
335 district, which rates and charges shall not be subject to review  
336 or regulation by the Mississippi Public Service Commission except  
337 in those instances where a city operating similar services would  
338 be subject to regulation and review; however, the district may  
339 furnish services, including connection to the facilities of the  
340 district, free of charge to the county or any agency or department  
341 of the county and to volunteer fire departments located within the  
342 service area of the district. The district shall obtain a



343 certificate of convenience and necessity from the Mississippi  
344 Public Service Commission for operating of water and/or sewer  
345 systems;

346 (f) To pledge all or any part of its revenues to the  
347 payment of its obligations;

348 (g) To make such covenants in connection with the  
349 issuance of bonds or to secure the payment of bonds that a private  
350 business corporation can make under the general laws of the state;

351 (h) To use any right-of-way, public right-of-way,  
352 easement, or other similar property or property rights necessary  
353 or convenient in connection with the acquisition, improvement,  
354 operation or maintenance of the facilities of such district held  
355 by the state or any political subdivision thereof; however, the  
356 governing body of such political subdivision shall consent to such  
357 use;

358 (i) To enter into agreements with state and federal  
359 agencies for loans, grants, grants-in-aid, and other forms of  
360 assistance including, but not limited to, participation in the  
361 sale and purchase of bonds;

362 (j) To acquire by purchase any existing works and  
363 facilities providing services for which it was created, and any  
364 lands, rights, easements, franchises and other property, real and  
365 personal necessary to the completion and operation of such system  
366 upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon, and if



367 necessary as part of the purchase price to assume the payment of  
368 outstanding notes, bonds or other obligations upon such system;

369 (k) To extend its services to areas beyond but within  
370 one (1) mile of the boundaries of such district; however, no such  
371 extension shall be made to areas already occupied by another  
372 corporate agency rendering the same service so long as such  
373 corporate agency desires to continue to serve such areas. Areas  
374 outside of the district desiring to be served which are beyond the  
375 one (1) mile limit must be brought into the district by annexation  
376 proceedings;

377 (l) To be deemed to have the same status as counties  
378 and municipalities with respect to payment of sales taxes on  
379 purchases made by such districts;

380 (m) To borrow funds for interim financing subject to  
381 receipt of funds as outlined in Section 19-5-181;

382 (n) To provide group life insurance coverage for all or  
383 specified groups of employees of the district and group  
384 hospitalization benefits for those employees and their dependents,  
385 and to pay the total cost of these benefits. For purposes of this  
386 paragraph, the term "employees" does not include any person who is  
387 a commissioner of a district created under Sections 19-5-151  
388 through 19-5-207, and such commissioners are not eligible to  
389 receive any insurance coverage or benefits made available to  
390 district employees under this paragraph.





391 (2) Any district which is incorporated under Sections  
392 19-5-151 through 19-5-207 to provide sewer services may install or  
393 provide for the installation of sewage holding tanks at  
394 residential properties within the district, if funding for  
395 municipal or community sewers has been awarded to the district.  
396 The district shall maintain or provide for the maintenance of the  
397 sewage holding tank systems. The district may assess and collect  
398 from each resident using a sewage holding tank a fee covering the  
399 costs of providing the services authorized under this section.  
400 When municipal or community sewers are available and ready for  
401 use, residences with sewage holding tanks shall be connected to  
402 the sewer system.

403 **SECTION 6.** Section 51-8-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
404 brought forward as follows:

405 51-8-31. Any district created pursuant to the provisions of  
406 this chapter, acting by and through the board of commissioners of  
407 such district as its governing authority, shall have, among  
408 others, the following powers:

409 (a) To sue and be sued;

410 (b) To acquire by purchase, gift, devise, lease or any  
411 other mode of acquisition, and to hold or dispose of, real and  
412 personal property of every kind within or without the district;

413 (c) To make and enter into contracts, conveyances,  
414 mortgages, deeds of trust, bonds, leases or contracts for  
415 financial advisory services;



416 (d) To incur debts, to borrow money, to issue  
417 negotiable bonds, and to provide for the rights of the holders  
418 thereof;

419 (e) To fix, maintain, collect and revise rates and  
420 charges for services rendered by or through the facilities of such  
421 district, which rates and charges shall not be subject to review  
422 or regulation by the Mississippi Public Service Commission except  
423 in those instances where a city operating similar services would  
424 be subject to regulation and review; however, said district shall  
425 obtain a certificate of convenience and necessity from the  
426 Mississippi Public Service Commission for operating water and/or  
427 sewer systems;

428 (f) To pledge all or any part of its revenues to the  
429 payment of its obligations;

430 (g) To make such covenants in connection with the  
431 issuance of bonds or to secure the payment of bonds that a private  
432 business corporation can make under the general laws of the state;

433 (h) To use any right-of-way, public right-of-way,  
434 easement, or other similar property or property rights necessary  
435 or convenient in connection with the acquisition, improvement,  
436 operation or maintenance of the facilities of such district held  
437 by the state or any political subdivision thereof; however, the  
438 governing body of such political subdivision shall consent to such  
439 use;



440 (i) To enter into agreements with state and federal  
441 agencies for loans, grants, grants-in-aid, and other forms of  
442 assistance, including, but not limited to, participation in the  
443 sale and purchase of bonds;

444 (j) To acquire by purchase, lease, gift, or otherwise,  
445 any existing works and facilities providing services for which it  
446 was created, and any lands, rights, easements, franchises and  
447 other property, real and personal, necessary to the completion and  
448 operation of such system upon such terms and conditions as may be  
449 agreed upon, and, if necessary as part of the acquisition price,  
450 to assume the payment of outstanding notes, bonds or other  
451 obligations upon such system; however, if any corporate agency  
452 owning such facilities desires to continue providing such  
453 services, the corporate agency shall so notify the district not  
454 later than ninety (90) days after the effective date of the  
455 creation of the district, and the district shall thereupon  
456 relinquish its right to provide such services until and unless the  
457 corporate agency elects otherwise or fails to adequately provide  
458 such services;

459 (k) To extend its services to areas beyond but within  
460 one (1) mile of the boundaries of such district; however, no such  
461 extension shall be made to areas already occupied by another  
462 corporate agency rendering the same service so long as such  
463 corporate agency desires to continue to serve such areas. Areas  
464 outside of the district desiring to be served which are beyond the



465 one-mile limit must be brought into the district by annexation  
466 proceedings;

467 (l) To be deemed to have the same status as counties  
468 and municipalities with respect to payment of sales taxes on  
469 purchases made by such districts;

470 (m) To borrow funds for interim financing subject to  
471 receipt of funds as outlined in Section 51-8-35;

472 (n) To choose a location within the district as the  
473 central office of the district;

474 (o) To adopt a plan for management of the water  
475 resources of the district, provided that such plan first be  
476 submitted to and approved by the Commission on Natural Resources  
477 as consistent with the state water management plan or objectives;

478 (p) To hire such personnel and contract for such legal,  
479 technical, or other services as the board of commissioners deems  
480 necessary for the operation of the district and fulfillment of its  
481 water management objectives; and

482 (q) To secure connection to or participation in the  
483 services provided by the district, including the power to obtain  
484 mandatory or prohibitory injunctive relief; provided, however,  
485 that the authority of the board of commissioners shall not be  
486 exercised in conflict with the regulatory and enforcement  
487 authority of the Commission on Natural Resources.

488 **SECTION 7.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
489 and after July 1, 2019.

