

RIVER AUTHORITIES

Sulphur River Basin Authority — H.B. 2180 Flynn (Nichols)

Central Colorado River Authority — S.B. 2262 Perry (Burns)

Upper Colorado River Authority — H.B. 1921 Flynn (Nichols)

Palo Duro River Authority of Texas — H.B. 1920 Flynn (Nichols)

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Sulphur River Basin Authority (SRBA)

- Institute new leadership at SRBA by requiring the terms of all SRBA board members to expire on September 1, 2017.
- Direct the SRBA board to hire an executive director. (Management action – nonstatutory)
- Require SRBA to seek advice from affected county judges on potential water development projects.
- Direct SRBA to seek local financial investment in its water development projects. (Management action – nonstatutory)
- Direct SRBA to seek bids for the next phase of its feasibility study. (Management action – nonstatutory)
- Direct SRBA to implement best practices to improve transparency and openness in its operations. (Management action – nonstatutory)
- Repeal SRBA's unused authority to provide hydroelectric power, parks and recreation facilities, solid waste service, and forestation services.
- Extend SRBA's Sunset review date to 2029. River authorities are subject to review, but not abolishment under the Sunset Act.

Central Colorado River Authority (CCRA)

- Abolish CCRA on January 1, 2019 and transfer the proceeds of its assets to Coleman County.
- Direct the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to inspect each of CCRA's three lakes and determine the condition and any repair needs of the dams. TCEQ reported the results of these inspections in December 2016. (Management action – nonstatutory)

Upper Colorado River Authority (UCRA)

- Clarify UCRA's territory, boundaries, and board makeup to accurately reflect its jurisdiction.
- Extend UCRA's Sunset review date to 2029. River authorities are subject to review, but not abolishment under the Sunset Act.

- Direct UCRA to work with local partners to identify priorities and develop strategies to meet changing watershed needs. (Management action – nonstatutory)

Palo Duro River Authority (PDRA)

- Reclassify PDRA as a local water district and remove it from Sunset review.
- Authorize one or more members to withdraw from or dissolve PDRA, but only if its members agree and ongoing obligations are met.
- Repeal PDRA's unused authority to imprison people for violating its regulations.
- Authorize PDRA to lease land for hunting, recreation, or renewable energy purposes.

Standard Review Elements Applied to All River Authorities

- **Transparency.** Require opportunities for public testimony at board meetings and direct river authorities to implement additional best practices to improve openness and transparency.
- **Good Government Standards.** Apply good government standards to river authorities' governing laws to promote accountability, clarity, and best practices.
- **Compliance with TCEQ Rules.** Direct SRBA and UCRA to comply with TCEQ rules by adopting required administrative policies.

Recommendation	SRBA	UCRA	PDRA
<i>Transparency</i>			
a. Formal public testimony	*	H.B. 1921	H.B. 1920
b. Establish a website	*	*	MA
c. File and comply with records retention plan	MA	MA	MA
d. Track Public Information Act requests	MA	MA	MA
e. Written reports at board meetings	MA	*	MA
f. Update governing laws	H.B. 2180	*	H.B. 1920
<i>Good Government Standards</i>			
a. Conflict of interest	*	*	H.B. 1920
b. Designation of presiding officer	H.B. 2180	H.B. 1921	N/A
c. Grounds for removal	*	*	H.B. 1920
d. Board member training	H.B. 2180	H.B. 1921	H.B. 1920
e. Separation of duties	H.B. 2180	H.B. 1921	H.B. 1920
f. Complaint information	H.B. 2180	H.B. 1921	H.B. 1920
g. Alternative dispute resolution	H.B. 2180	H.B. 1921	H.B. 1920
<i>Compliance with TCEQ Rules</i>	MA	MA	N/A

* Currently in place or required by river authority's governing law.

MA = Management action – nonstatutory