

HOUSE BILL NO. 1218

Energy & Natural Resources Committee Hearing

January 30, 2025 9AM

Chairman Porter

Reason for HB1218 as related to rural projects, impacting production agriculture, that exceed a project cost of \$200,000:

- At the local level, those affected have already voted to proceed with the project, knowing the increased cost per acre and recognizing the benefit
- The economic analysis for flood control and more so for water conveyance projects in rural areas does not take into consideration the benefits to production agriculture (i.e.: crop prices / yields / crop loss)
- Because the economic analysis does not take all factors into consideration, the department of water resources cost share % is often reduced
- The reduction in cost share increases the cost at the local level, which is not affordable, thus the projects do not occur
- The department of water resources economic analysis process slows the process and is costly

Due to the above reason, the bill raises the economic analysis threshold for projects that exceed a project cost of \$5 million.

Those who follow in support of HB1218 will provide additional facts with figures that support raising the threshold to \$5 million.

I am requesting your favorable consideration of HB1218.