Dear GEAA Member Group Leaders,

On November 8th, all Texans will be asked to vote yea or nay on on ten amendments to the State Constitution. Two of these, Proposition 2 (renewing authority for Texas Water Development Board bonds) and Proposition 8 (Appraising open space land for water stewardship) have to do with water and planning for adequate water in our State.

GEAA wholeheartedly endorses Proposition 8. We urge you to get the word out to your members in support of this measure, which would create an incentive for landowners to partner with the state to protect water quality and increase conservation efforts by adding water stewardship to the land uses for which land could be appraised based on its productive capacity to qualify for certain tax benefits. We will be posting information in support of this measure on our web site, and sending out to GEAA members. It would be greatly appreciated if you could forward this information to your members.

I would also like to know if your group has taken a position on Proposition 2 (Renewing authority for Texas Water Development Board bonds). For your information, I am including a link to the Focus Report of the House Research Organization, where there is a good discussion of this amendment on pages 7 and 8. Since this is not expressly addressed by our mission statement, GEAA will not take a position on Prop. 2 unless it is the consensus of our member groups to do so.

As always, if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, feel free to contact me at your convenience.

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