



Dear GEAA members,

You should be receiving your annual membership renewal letter in the mail within the next few days. As noted, GEAA is observing our tenth anniversary this year. We hope that your response gives us cause to celebrate!

Also enclosed in the letter are [highlights of just a few of the things we have accomplished over the past ten years](#). We are sincerely grateful to all of you for making this possible. If you are not a GEAA member, [please consider joining](#). We need all the help we can get!

The deadline for filing new bills in the Texas Legislature is this Friday. We expect to release GEAA's legislative agenda later this month. In the meanwhile, bills are being heard in committee. We would like to draw your attention to two good and one very bad bill that will be considered in Committees tomorrow.

The first of the many bills filed this session to curb [Local Control](#) by municipalities will be heard in the [House State Affairs Committee](#) tomorrow. [HB 540](#) (Phil King) would curtail the use of City Initiative and Referendum. Under this rule the Save Our Springs ordinance would have never been allowed on the ballot.

[Click here](#) for more information on bills that would take away Local Control. [Click here](#) to sign on to a letter urging all legislators and Governor Abbott to respect cities rights to govern.

[House Natural Resources](#) will hear two wonderful bills that deserve your support:

[HB 1016](#) (Tracy O. King) designates portions of the Nueces, Frio, Sabinal, San Marcos, and Comal rivers as being of unique ecological value.

[HB 928](#) (Guillen) directs water suppliers and irrigation districts to review and, if necessary, update drought contingency plans every five years and requires

significant providers of potable water to submit drought contingency plans and an evaluation of the effectiveness of strategies in the plan that were implemented by the supplier or district during any period of significant drought that occurred in the preceding five years.

It would be great if you could join us in contacting the members of the [House Natural Resources Committee](#) to let them know you support these bills.

Last but not least, I recently learned that [Half Price Books](#) has designated GEAA as the recipient of a nickel each time a store customer declines a plastic bag for purchases. We are grateful to them for being so environmentally friendly and, for a lovely surprise check!

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this message and, perhaps, for responding to these requests. We hope to hear from you soon!

Annalisa Peace, Executive Director

www.AquiferAlliance.org

You can always keep up with interesting water news on [GEAA's Face Book page](#)

and, you can donate to GEAA [on line](#) or mail contributions to support GEAA to PO Box 15618, San Antonio, Texas 78212