

Alamo, Austin, and Lone Star chapters of  
the Sierra Club  
Bexar Audubon Society  
Bexar and Travis-Austin Green Parties  
Bexar Grotto  
Boerne Together  
Bulverde Neighborhood Alliance  
Bulverde Neighbors for Clean Water  
Cibolo Center for Conservation  
Citizens for the Protection of Cibolo Creek  
Comal County Conservation Alliance  
Environment Texas  
First Universalist Unitarian Church of SA  
Fitzhugh Neighbors  
Friends of Canyon Lake  
Friends of Castroville Regional Park  
Friends of Dry Comal Creek  
Friends of Government Canyon  
Fuerza Unida  
Green Society of UTSA  
Guadalupe Riverkeepers  
Guadalupe River Road Alliance  
Guardians of Lick Creek  
Headwaters at Incarnate Word  
Helotes Heritage Association  
Hill Country Alliance  
Kendall County Well Owners Association  
Kinney County Ground Zero  
Leon Springs Business Association  
Native Plant Society of Texas – SA  
Northwest Interstate Coalition of NA's  
Pedernales River Alliance – Gillespie Co.  
Preserve Castroville  
Preserve Lake Dunlop Association  
Preserve Our Hill Country Environment  
RiverAid San Antonio  
San Antonio Audubon Society  
San Antonio Conservation Society  
San Geronimo Valley Alliance  
San Marcos Greenbelt Alliance  
San Marcos River Foundation  
Save Barton Creek Association  
Save Our Springs Alliance  
Scenic Loop/Boerne Stage Alliance  
Securing a Future Environment  
SEED Coalition  
Signal Hill Area Alliance  
Sisters of the Divine Providence  
Solar San Antonio  
Texas Cave Management Association  
Trinity Edwards Spring Protection Assoc.  
Water Aid – Texas State University  
Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation  
The Watershed Association  
**PO Box 15618, San Antonio, Texas 78212**

March 28, 2023

House Natural Resources

RE: Comments on HB 4532 / SB 2540 for the 88th Regular Texas Legislature

Honorable Chairman King and Members of the House Natural Resources  
Committee,

These comments are submitted on behalf of the 55 member groups of the Greater  
Edwards Aquifer Alliance (GEAA) in support of HB 4532. GEAA unites 25,000  
Texans in 21 counties in advocacy of protections for the Edwards and Trinity  
aquifers and the streams and rivers within these watersheds.

This bill would require the Texas Water Development Board to calculate the  
modeled sustained groundwater pumping volumes for aquifers in Texas. This is  
defined as the maximum amount of groundwater that the executive administrator,  
using the best available science, determines may be produced annually in  
perpetuity from an aquifer. The bill amends Section 36.108 of the Texas Water  
Code to add this volume to the list of things a groundwater conservation district  
must consider when adopting a desired future condition.

This is especially pertinent to our efforts to ensure that the Trinity Aquifers, which  
are slow to recharge, do not go into water deficit. As population and reliance on  
groundwater resources proliferate in Central Texas, the prospect of permanently  
depleting these aquifers is real and imminent. Hydrologists warn us that much of  
the water currently being pumped from these systems is water that entered the  
Trinity in ancient times, indicating that recent recharge is not sufficient to meet  
current needs.

As large ranches are broken up into smaller parcels, each afforded under state law  
with exempt wells for household use, the number of our members who have to drill  
their wells deeper increases. We need to make sure that our groundwater  
resources are managed so as to be reliably sustainable. This bill will provide our  
groundwater conservation districts and priority groundwater management areas  
with much needed data that they can use when setting long-term management  
goals, or desired future conditions.

We strongly urge you to approve the passage of HB 4532.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.  
Respectfully,

Annalisa Peace  
Executive Director  
Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance