

Committee on Environmental Preservation And Conservation

CS/HB 1389 — Water Storage and Water Quality Improvements

by Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee; and Rep. Perman and others (CS/SB 1858 by Environmental Preservation and Senator Altman)

The bill provides legislative intent to encourage public-private partnerships for water storage and water quality improvements on agricultural lands throughout the state. The bill specifies that any agreement must include a baseline condition to determine the extent of wetlands and other surface waters on a property. In addition, the bill specifies that during and after expiration of any agreement, the extent of the wetlands and other surface waters on the property is the original baseline condition.

The bill also creates the Study Committee on Investor-owned Water and Wastewater Utility Systems Study. The purpose of the committee is to identify issues of concern of investor-owned water and wastewater utility systems. The Committee must prepare and submit a report to the Governor, Legislature and any relevant agencies detailing its findings and making specific recommendations by February 15, 2013. The bill specifies the Committee terminates on June 30, 2013.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2012.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 115-0