

By: Don Avery
Committee Assigned: General

R 51

RESOLUTION

Protection of Long Term Residents' Lakeside Property

A RESOLUTION TO: Protect long-time residents currently living in lakeside property leased from River Authorities from being evicted to make way for resort developments.

WHEREAS, government entities have lately attempted to take property from some owners through the power of Eminent Domain, to make the property available to others for their private development projects, and most citizens believe this practice is grossly unfair and unconstitutional, but now some Texas River Authorities are contemplating similar unfair practices against long-time lease-holders who live on "economically underdeveloped" lake-side properties, and

WHEREAS, using the Brazos River Authority (BRA) as a prime example, this authority was created by the Texas Legislature in 1929 as the first agency in our nation specifically created for the purpose of developing and managing the water resources of an entire river basin, winding more than 840 miles, and this River Authority was given the mission to develop, manage and protect the water resources of the Brazos river basin to meet the needs of Texas; and.

WHEREAS, the Brazos River Authority board, with visions of developing lake-side property into resort property, recently voted to change lease rates that have been in force for some 65 years and is on course to disenfranchise many people over the age of 65 who live in mobile homes as lessees of the BRA at Possum Kingdom Lake where they have lived for many years; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the 11th Texas Silver-Haired Legislature encourage and strongly recommend that the 80th Texas Legislature enact laws which will prevent Texas River Authorities, specifically including the BRA, from unfairly evicting long-time lease holders for any purpose which includes resort-type land development, but instead requires River Authorities to allow those who are currently living in lake-side property leased from the River Authority, specifically including those at Possum Kingdom Lake, to continue living in their homes during their lifetimes at lease rates comparable to those now being charged.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 13th day of September, 2006, by the General Committee.

Maurice Osborn, Chair

PASSED AND APPROVED this 14th day of September, 2006, by the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

Charlotte Parks, Speaker

ATTEST:

Carlos Higgins, Secretary