

## HOUSE BILL No. 2695

By Committee on Water

Requested by Representative Vaughn

2-6

1 AN ACT concerning water; relating to groundwater management districts;  
2 allowing a majority of eligible voters in a groundwater management  
3 district or an area for a proposed extension or reduction of a district to  
4 petition the chief engineer to extend or reduce the territory in a  
5 groundwater management district; amending K.S.A. 82a-1033 and  
6 repealing the existing section.

7  
8 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

9 Section 1. K.S.A. 82a-1033 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
10 82a-1033. (a) The chief engineer shall have the power, upon proper  
11 petition being presented *therefor* by the board ~~for that purpose~~, *a majority*  
12 *of eligible voters in a district or a majority of eligible voters in an area for*  
13 *a proposed extension or reduction of a district*, to extend or reduce the  
14 territory of any groundwater management district organized and  
15 incorporated under the provisions of this act. The petition to extend or  
16 reduce the territory of any groundwater management district shall be  
17 addressed to the chief engineer and shall:

18 (1) Describe the territory to be annexed or removed by township,  
19 range and section numbers and fraction thereof and other platted areas as  
20 appropriate;

21 (2) have a map attached thereto as an exhibit, and incorporated  
22 therein by reference, showing the district and the lands proposed to be  
23 annexed or removed; *and*

24 (3) show that the proposed extension or reduction of territory has  
25 been recommended by the district concerned by *a* resolution duly adopted  
26 by its board.

27 (b) The chief engineer shall fix a time for a hearing upon the petition,  
28 and the district shall give notice thereof for three-~~(3)~~ consecutive weeks in  
29 a newspaper or newspapers of general circulation within the district;. The  
30 first publication ~~to shall~~ be at least ~~twenty-eight~~ (28) days before the day  
31 fixed for the hearing. The notice shall state the name and general location  
32 of the district and describe the lands proposed to be annexed or removed.  
33 ~~¶ Such notice shall state that a hearing will be held on to determine~~  
34 ~~whether the petition of the district should be approved. It shall state,~~  
35 *provide* the day, hour; and place of the hearing, which shall be at a suitable

1 location, and *state* that all persons may appear before the chief engineer at  
2 the hearing and be heard. If, after the hearing, the chief engineer finds that  
3 the area proposed to be annexed or removed meets other requirements as  
4 prescribed for the organization of a district, ~~he or she~~ *the chief engineer*  
5 shall approve the petition and fix the time when the annexation or  
6 reduction of territory shall become effective. A certified copy of ~~his or her~~  
7 *the chief engineer's* order approving the petition shall be sent to the board  
8 of directors and ~~to~~ the secretary of state. The board of directors shall file a  
9 copy of the order for record in the office of the register of deeds of each  
10 county ~~in which~~ *where* the district, as modified, or any part thereof lies.

11 *(c) Subsection (a)(3) shall not apply to petitions to extend or reduce*  
12 *the territory of any groundwater management district filed with the chief*  
13 *engineer by a majority of eligible voters in a district or a majority of*  
14 *eligible voters in a proposed area for extension or reduction of a district.*

15 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 82a-1033 is hereby repealed.

16 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
17 publication in the statute book.