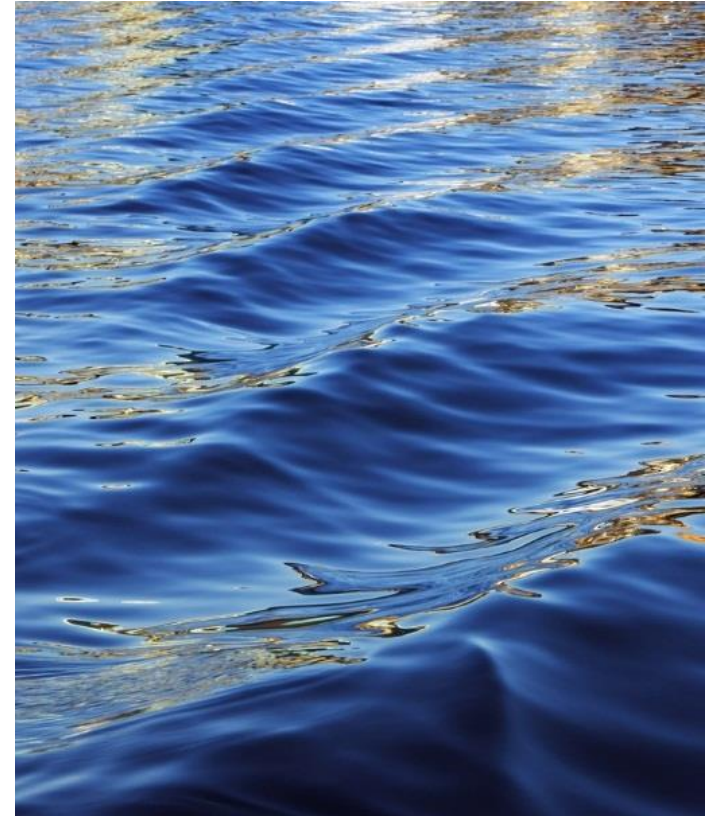


*League of Independent  
Voters of Texas—  
McKinney Roughs  
March 23, 2017*

*Texas Populism  
Conference: Building the  
Independent Rural-Urban  
Alliance*

*Uniting Texans to Protect Our  
Water, Our Land and Our  
Elections*



*League of Independent Voters of Texas  
Founded August 2013*

## ***Why did we organize?***

***"The abject failure of state lawmakers to resolve the crisis in protection of natural resources – air, land and water – has forced us to come together, whether we like it or not, much less whether we agree on a list of hot button issues both parties love to focus on, while special interests are laughing themselves all the way to the bank."***

**We said this about Prop 6 in 2013, we said it again in the 2015 Session ~~~ 2017, and beyond, is up to YOU!**



**LIV: PLANTING OUR  
(NON-GMO) SEEDS  
2013 – 2017**

George was RIGHT!

**WARNS POLITICAL PARTIES  
WILL BE THE DOWNFALL OF THE**

**USA**

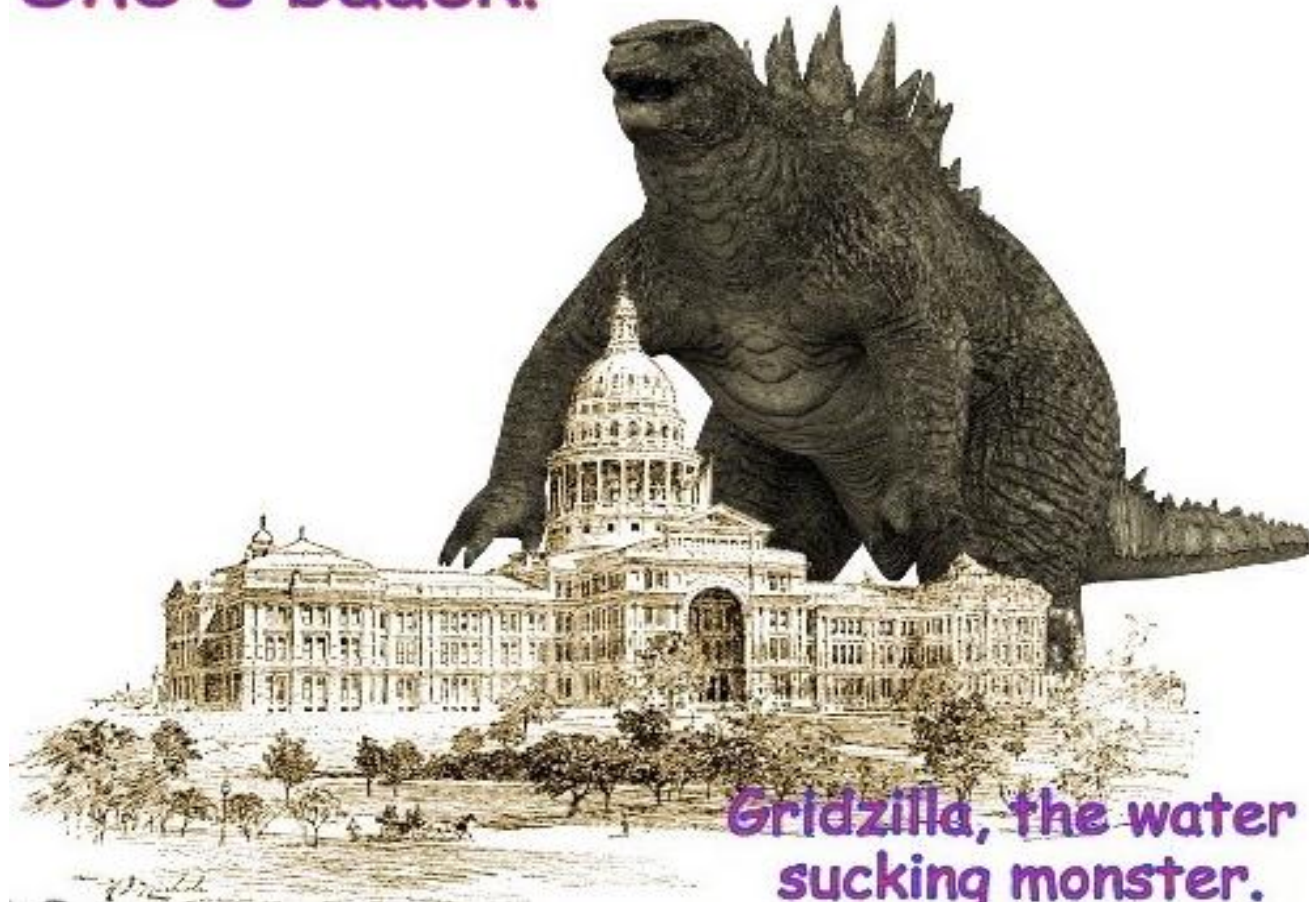
**IS RIGHT**



Absolutely right

*We stopped her as a "baby" in 2015, but now ~~~*

*She's baack!*



*Gridzilla, the water sucking monster.*

## What is Gridzilla?

- **Texas version of the “California Water Model” – a “model” which is a proven failure.**
- **Involves all of our state’s water resources but groundwater is easier prey:**
  - privately owned**
  - can be bought and sold (even by felons!) with little regulation to protect the unsophisticated**
  - subject to the Rule of Capture**

**If you “follow the money” in Texas, it leads to groundwater as the priority source for private interests to get rich, by buying it cheap, and selling it high to municipalities who want the power of being pre-ordained population centers and don’t mind sticking their ratepayers with paying for the water, the pipeline and the infrastructure, usually a cost today’s ratepayers are incurring for tomorrow’s residents (when and if the new residents actually show up).**

## What's going on with Gridzilla this session?

- Gridzilla in 2015 was just a “study” about moving water and we defeated her.



- She's back as more of a hydra :

---Massive groundwater projects around the state are taking too long – the big pumpers all want to get their “straws” in the ground and their pipelines built with permits that last forever.

---Local groundwater districts currently manage local groundwater, and some aren't getting with the Gridzilla program fast enough.

---Landowners who don't want to sell their water and look to their groundwater districts for protection are getting in the way.



# Proposed Legislation from Gridzilla's Handlers – Water Bills We OPPOSE

- **SB 1392 (Perry) “Relating to groundwater districts”  
OPPOSE**  
Most notable provision **“The right to export water is of equal dignity with the right to produce water”** --- no mention of the right of the aquifer or of landowners who own their water to equal dignity!
- **HB31 (Larson) “Relating to management of groundwater”  
OPPOSE**
- **HB2378 (Larson)/SB 774 (Perry) “Relating to extensions of an expired permit for the transfer of groundwater from a groundwater conservation district” OPPOSE**

## Water Bills We OPPOSE

- **HB 4050 (Larson)/HB 4162 (Larson) “Relating to exports of groundwater from a groundwater conservation district.” OPPOSE**
- **HB4235 (Larson) “Relating to the sunset review of certain groundwater conservation districts.” OPPOSE**
- **HB 3677(Isaac), “Relating to the creation of the Heart of Texas Aquifer District and the dissolution of certain groundwater conservation districts; providing authority to issue bonds; providing authority to impose assessments, fees, or surcharges.” OPPOSE**

## Water Bills We OPPOSE

- **SB 1198 (Zaffirini/Campbell)** “Relating to the conversion of the Hays Caldwell Public Utility Agency to the Alliance Regional Water Authority; providing authority to issue bonds; granting the power of eminent domain; providing authority to impose fees.” **OPPOSE** unless can be amended to clarify and make something productive out of it to further cooperative, regional development of water supply.
- **HB4045 (Cortez)** and any other bill that denies the opportunity for notice and hearing before non-exempt permits are issued. **OPPOSE**

## Water Bills We OPPOSE

- We are **UNDECIDED BUT LIKELY OPPOSED** to **SJR 36 (Perry)** that proposes a constitutional amendment to prohibit a tax on the sale or purchase of water wholesale.

## Water Bills We SUPPORT

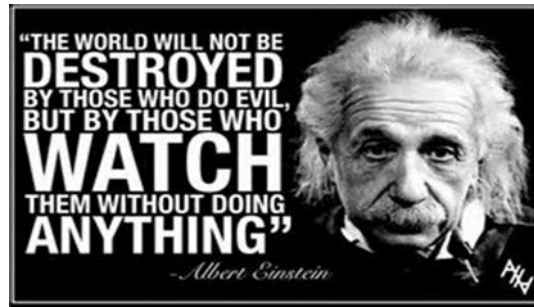
- **HB 3166 (Lucio III) “Relating to the consideration of modeled sustainable groundwater pumping in the adoption of desired future conditions in groundwater conservation districts.” SUPPORT**
- **HB 3417 (T. King) “Relating to the criteria considered by groundwater conservation districts before granting or denying a permit.” SUPPORT**
- **HB 3028 (Burns), “Relating to groundwater ownership and rights.” TENTATIVELY SUPPORT**

## Water Bills We SUPPORT

- **HB 3996 (Cyrier) “Relating to sunset review of certain municipally owned water utilities.” SUPPORT**
- **HB 3025 (T. King) “Relating to open, uncovered, abandoned, or deteriorated wells.” SUPPORT**
- **SB 189 (Uresti) “Relating to notice of an application for a permit to rill certain injection wells within a certain distance of a groundwater conservation district.” SUPPORT**

# What Can You Do?

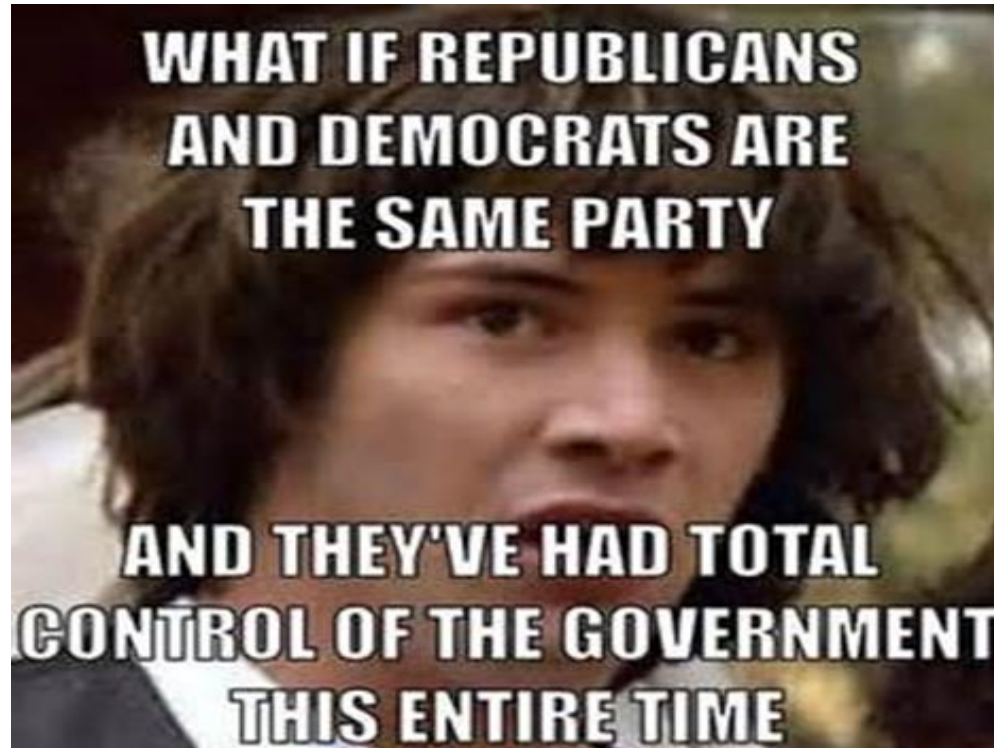
BE A "NIMBI" ~~~"NOW I MUST BE INVOLVED!"



**\*\*\* Monitor our website and your email for legislative updates.\*\*\***

- PO Box 651, Bastrop, Texas 78602
- 512-213-4511 \* [info@IndependentLeagueTX.org](mailto:info@IndependentLeagueTX.org)

# Texas Independents Are Asking ~~~~





## **First Theorem of Government**

Above all else, the public sector is a racket for the enrichment of insiders, cronies, bureaucrats, and interest groups.

Thank you for being an Independent listener!



*League of Independent Voters of  
Texas– McKinney Roughs  
March 23, 2017*

*Texas Populism Conference:  
Building the Independent Rural-  
Urban Alliance*

*Uniting Texans to Protect Our  
Water, Our Land and Our Elections*

*Michele Gangnes, Director  
512-461-3179  
mggangnes@aol.com*

