

For Immediate Release  
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### **Speaker Craddick Appoints Five to Environmental Flows Commission**

AUSTIN -- Speaker Tom Craddick, R-Midland, appointed five individuals to the Study Commission on Water for Environmental Flows for terms at the discretion of the speaker.

The commission was established by Senate Bill 1639 from the 78th Regular Session to conduct public hearings and study ways to balance the growing demands for Texas's water resources with environmental concerns. The findings and recommendations will be reported to the legislature no later than Dec. 1, 2004.

Rep. Robert Puente, D-San Antonio, as ranking member on the study commission will serve as the co-presiding officer with the ranking senate appointee. Puente, a San Antonio lawyer, has been a member of the Texas House of Representatives since 1991. This 78th Legislative Session, Puente served as the chairman of the Natural Resources Committee overseeing proposed environmental legislation. He also served on the House Administration Committee and Local Government Ways and Means Committee.

Rep. William "Bill" Callegari, R-Katy, has been a member of the Texas House of Representatives since 2001 serving part of Harris County. During the 78th Legislative Session he served as vice-chairman of the Natural Resources Committee. He also served on the Government Reform Committee and Local & Consent Calendars Committee. By trade, he is a professional engineer.

Rep. Scott Campbell, R-San Angelo, is a freshman member of the Texas House of Representatives who served as vice-chairman of the Defense Affairs and State-Federal Relations Committee. He also served on the Natural Resources Committee and introduced legislation dealing with water issues this past 78th Regular Session.

Dr. Ben Vaughan IV, from San Antonio, will serve as one of the public members on the study commission. Dr. Vaughan is an assistant professor of economics at Texas Lutheran University since 1998. His field of research is property rights and resource allocation from which he wrote his dissertation and several publications. He co-directed the 2002 fall Krost Symposium, Drought Punctuated by Flood: Water in South Central Texas. He also received the Student Government Association's Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year Award for 2002-2003.

David Herndon of Austin, will also serve as one of the public members to the study commission. Herndon, an Austin attorney specializing in commercial real estate, served as general council to the governor and executive director of the criminal justice division and the assistant secretary of state. He is a member of the Travis County Bar Association, American Bar Association and the State Bar of Texas. He served on the board for the Texas Department of Human Services and the Texas Public Finance Authority.