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DONNA CAMPBELL, MD

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Senator Campbell's Quarry Bill Headed to Governor as Part of HB 907

Language Campbell Added Requires More Frequent Monitoring of Aggregate Operations

AUSTIN – The Texas House passed HB 907 after receiving it back from the Senate in an amended form Friday that included the full language of a bill authored by Senator Donna Campbell to increase monitoring and unannounced inspections of rock quarries.

Senator Campbell's SB 694 originally passed the Texas Senate on May 9th, but got bottled up in the House Environment Regulation Committee and failed to receive a hearing. Working with Senator Brandon Creighton at the same time, Senator Campbell was able to amend the language of her bill into the committee substitute for House bill 907, which has now passed both chambers and is on its way to the Governor's desk.

"For decades, Texans have supported responsible growth while protecting our natural resources," said Senator Donna Campbell. "As more development comes to the Texas Hill Country, it's imperative we remain committed to this responsibility. The bill I passed increases monitoring of quarries, requiring three inspections in their first six years of operation, and allows unannounced visits by the TCEQ to aggregate operations with previous environmental violations."

The bill also requires inspectors for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to receive training in the regulatory requirements applicable to aggregate production operations and increases penalties for bad actors who fail to register for monitoring.

"I filed three bills to address the expansion of quarries in the Texas Hill Country, and I am proud to say that we got language from two of the bills into legislation headed to the Governor's desk," said Senator Campbell. "This is a lot more than we had before the legislative session began, and hopefully we can come back and build on this success two years from now."