

By: Guerra, Longoria, Muñoz, Jr.

H.B. No. 3576

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3576:

By: Ellzey

C.S.H.B. No. 3576

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authority of the Railroad Commission of Texas to study geothermal energy and associated resources.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 141, Natural Resources Code, is amended by adding Subchapter E to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER E. GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES

Sec. 141.151. STUDY. The commission may study the geothermal energy potential and associated resources in this state to:

(1) examine the potential for utilizing inactive or abandoned wells for their geothermal potential;

(2) review areas of the state with high geothermal activity;

(3) consider alternative uses of wells listed in the State Managed Plugging program; and

(4) ways to encourage the production of geothermal energy and associated resources in this state.

Sec. 141.152. PARTNERSHIPS. (a) The commission may enter a partnership with the University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology and the Southern Methodist University Geothermal Lab to facilitate their study; and

(b) expend funds received in Sec. 141.153.

Sec. 141.153. FEDERAL FUNDS. The commission may accept

1 federal funds for the purpose of this chapter.

2 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.