

By: Darby

H.B. No. 4856

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the jurisdiction of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality over certain recharge injection wells.

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

SECTION 1. Section 27.201, Water Code, is amended by adding Subdivision (1-a) to read as follows:

(1-a) "Fluid oil and gas waste" has the meaning assigned by Section 122.001, Natural Resources Code.

SECTION 2. Section 27.202, Water Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 27.202. JURISDICTION. (a) The commission has exclusive jurisdiction over the regulation and permitting of recharge injection wells, including recharge injection wells used for the injection of fluid oil and gas waste.

(b) A recharge injection well may not be used for the injection of fluid oil and gas waste unless the waste has been treated to meet the standards adopted by the commission under this subchapter.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2023.