

By: Rodriguez

H.B. No. 711

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to certain persons appointed as officers or employees of
3 the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality; imposing a criminal
4 penalty.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 5.060, Water Code, is amended to read as
7 follows:

8 Sec. 5.060. LOBBYIST PROHIBITION; RESTRICTIONS ON EMPLOYMENT
9 FOLLOWING COMMISSION SERVICE. (a) A person may not be a member of
10 the commission or act as executive director of or general counsel to
11 the commission if, during the person's appointment or for any
12 portion of the two years before the date of the appointment, the
13 person is required to register as a lobbyist under Chapter 305,
14 Government Code, because of the person's activities for
15 compensation on behalf of:

16 (1) a profession related to the operation of the
17 commission; or

18 (2) a person that receives funds from the commission.

19 (b) A person who was a member of the commission or acted as
20 the executive director of or general counsel to the commission may
21 not, before the third anniversary of the date the person's service
22 with the commission terminates, perform activities for
23 compensation that would require the person to register as a
24 lobbyist under Chapter 305, Government Code, on behalf of:

1 (1) a profession related to the operation of the
2 commission; or

3 (2) a person that receives funds from the commission.

4 (c) A person commits an offense if the person violates this
5 section. An offense under this subsection is a Class C misdemeanor.

6 SECTION 2. This Act applies only to the appointment of a
7 member to, the employment of a person with, or the termination of a
8 person's service from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
9 on or after September 1, 2003. The appointment of a member to, the
10 employment of a person with, or the termination of a person's
11 service from the commission before the effective date of this Act is
12 governed by the law as it existed immediately before September 1,
13 2003, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

14 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.