

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1794
By: Armbrister
Natural Resources
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As Filed

AUTHOR'S/SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program (GRIP) enacted by the 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003, was intended as a regulatory tool to provide timely interim adjustment to gas utility rates and reduce rate case expenses. The absence of a definite suspension period in the statute has led to cities imposing varying suspension periods.

As proposed, S.B. 1794 provides a definite time limit for suspensions of GRIP filings, thus promoting the timeliness of filing reviews, eliminating discussions and related costs about a proper suspension period, and providing for consistent handling of these filings.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 104.301(a), Utilities Code, to authorize the Texas Railroad Commission or the governing body of a municipality, as appropriate, to act to suspend the implementation of a tariff, rate schedule, or annual adjustment for up to 45 days, during the 60-day period [before the proposed implementation date of the tariff].

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2005.