

By: Anchia

H.B. No. 375

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the development of a state strategy for increasing the  
3 availability of low-emission automotive fuels for Texas drivers.

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

5 SECTION 1. (a) The State Energy Conservation Office shall  
6 prepare a report that provides a coherent strategy for and  
7 recommends mechanisms for increasing the availability of  
8 low-emission automotive fuels. The report must include:

9 (1) a list of recommended fuels;

10 (2) proposed mechanisms for increasing the  
11 availability of the fuels recommended under Subdivision (1) of this  
12 subsection to the majority of Texas drivers by 2010, including:

13 (A) rebates for retrofitting vehicles to make  
14 them compatible with the recommended fuels, if necessary;

15 (B) procurement agreements by municipalities and  
16 state agencies to purchase vehicles that are compatible with the  
17 recommended fuels; and

18 (C) market incentives to producers and  
19 distributors of the recommended fuels;

20 (3) an assessment of:

21 (A) the anticipated effects on ground-level  
22 ozone levels in urban areas as a result of using the recommended  
23 fuels;

24 (B) the cost to the state to implement the

1 mechanisms proposed under Subdivision (2) of this subsection;

2 (C) the possible benefits to the state in reduced  
3 health care costs that may result from using the recommended fuels;

4 (D) the number of new jobs expected to be created  
5 in this state that may result from using the recommended fuels;

6 (E) projected costs to Texas consumers of using  
7 the recommended fuels;

8 (F) the anticipated effect on state revenue as a  
9 result of new economic activity related to the production,  
10 distribution, and use of the recommended fuels; and

11 (G) the net reduction of emissions projected to  
12 result from using the recommended fuels; and

13 (4) any statutory changes needed to implement the  
14 strategy or a recommended mechanism.

15 (b) For each fuel in the list of fuels recommended under  
16 this section, the State Energy Conservation Office shall include an  
17 analysis of the life cycle emissions for the fuel and a  
18 determination of how well the fuel achieves the goal of producing at  
19 least 20 percent less emissions over its life cycle than  
20 conventional gasoline. The life cycle of a fuel includes emissions  
21 that occur in the production of the fuel. If part of the fuel's  
22 production process includes carbon capture and storage, also known  
23 as carbon sequestration, the resulting reduction in carbon dioxide  
24 emissions is included in computing the life cycle emissions for the  
25 fuel.

26 SECTION 2. (a) The State Energy Conservation Office may  
27 establish a task force to assist in developing the strategy and

1 recommendations required by this Act.

2 (b) Not later than October 1, 2008, the State Energy  
3 Conservation Office shall deliver the report required by this Act  
4 to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house  
5 of representatives, and the standing committees of the legislature  
6 with primary jurisdiction over environmental, economic, and  
7 transportation matters.

8 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
9 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
10 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
11 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
12 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.