

By: Creighton

H.B. No. 179

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the application of new requirements for commercial  
3 underground injection control wells to be adopted by the Texas  
4 Commission on Environmental Quality.

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

6 SECTION 1. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
7 of this Act, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality shall  
8 adopt rules governing all aspects of the management and operation  
9 of a new commercial underground injection control well, including  
10 the regulation of surface facilities associated with the well, that  
11 proposes to accept industrial or municipal waste for which a permit  
12 has not been issued on or before the effective date of this Act.

13 SECTION 2. (a) The Texas Commission on Environmental  
14 Quality shall suspend the permitting process for any pending  
15 application for a permit for a new commercial underground injection  
16 control well that proposes to accept industrial or municipal waste  
17 until the rules adopted under Section 1 of this Act take effect.

18 (b) The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality shall  
19 provide that the rules adopted under Section 1 of this Act apply to  
20 every application for a permit for a new commercial underground  
21 injection control well that proposes to accept industrial or  
22 municipal waste that is filed on or after the effective date of this  
23 Act and every application for a permit for a new commercial  
24 underground injection control well that proposes to accept

1 industrial or municipal waste that is pending on the effective date  
2 of this Act.

3 (c) The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality may allow  
4 an applicant who filed such an application that is pending on the  
5 effective date of this Act to amend the application to conform to  
6 the rules adopted under Section 1 of this Act.

7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
11 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.