

By: Hinojosa

S.B. No. 2355

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of the pipeline safety fund.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 121, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Section 121.212 to read as follows:

Sec. 121.212. PIPELINE SAFETY FUND. (a) The pipeline safety fund is created as a special account in the general revenue fund. The fund consists of:

(1) fees collected under Section 121.211;

(2) civil penalties and administrative penalties collected for violations under Subchapters E and F;

(3) civil penalties collected for violations under Section 121.302;

(4) administrative penalties collected for violations of Section 121.304(a)(2);

(5) civil penalties collected for violations under Chapters 117 and 118, Natural Resources Code;

(6) criminal penalties collected under Chapter 117, Natural Resources Code; and

(7) settlement amounts collected by the attorney general under Subdivisions (1)-(5).

(b) Amounts deposited in the fund may be appropriated only to the railroad commission for:

(1) the implementation and enforcement of the pipeline

1 safety standards and practices of:

2 (A) Chapters 117 and 118, Natural Resources Code;

3 (B) Subchapters E and F; and

4 (C) Section 756.126, Health and Safety Code; and

5 (2) the performance of other pipeline safety duties

6 under 49 U.S.C. Section 60101 et seq., or a succeeding law.

7 SECTION 2. Section 121.211(h), Utilities Code, is repealed.

8 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.