

By: Veasey

H.B. No. 173

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to changing the name of the Railroad Commission of Texas to the Texas Oil and Gas Commission.

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

SECTION 1. The heading to Chapter 81, Natural Resources Code, is amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 81. TEXAS OIL AND GAS [~~RAILROAD~~] COMMISSION [~~OF TEXAS~~]

SECTION 2. Section 81.001, Natural Resources Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 81.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Commission" means the Texas Oil and Gas [~~Railroad~~] Commission [~~of Texas~~].

(2) "Commissioner" means any member of the Texas Oil and Gas [~~Railroad~~] Commission [~~of Texas~~].

SECTION 3. Subchapter A, Chapter 81, Natural Resources Code, is amended by adding Section 81.003 to read as follows:

Sec. 81.003. TEXAS OIL AND GAS COMMISSION. (a) The Railroad Commission of Texas is renamed the Texas Oil and Gas Commission.

(b) A reference in law to the Railroad Commission of Texas means the Texas Oil and Gas Commission.

SECTION 4. (a) Effective January 1, 2012:

(1) the name of the Railroad Commission of Texas is changed to the Texas Oil and Gas Commission, and all powers, duties,

1 rights, and obligations of the Railroad Commission of Texas are the  
2 powers, duties, rights, and obligations of the Texas Oil and Gas  
3 Commission;

4 (2) a member of the Railroad Commission of Texas is a  
5 member of the Texas Oil and Gas Commission; and

6 (3) any appropriation to the Railroad Commission of  
7 Texas is an appropriation to the Texas Oil and Gas Commission.

8 (b) Effective January 1, 2012, a reference in law to the  
9 Railroad Commission of Texas is a reference to the Texas Oil and Gas  
10 Commission.

11 (c) The Texas Oil and Gas Commission is the successor to the  
12 Railroad Commission of Texas in all respects. All personnel,  
13 equipment, data, documents, facilities, contracts, items, other  
14 property, rules, decisions, and proceedings of or involving the  
15 Railroad Commission of Texas are unaffected by the change in the  
16 name of the agency.

17 (d) The Railroad Commission of Texas shall adopt a timetable  
18 for phasing in the change of the agency's name so as to minimize the  
19 fiscal impact of the name change. Until January 1, 2012, to allow  
20 for phasing in the change of the agency's name and in accordance  
21 with the timetable established as required by this section, the  
22 agency may perform any act authorized by law for the Railroad  
23 Commission of Texas as the Railroad Commission of Texas or as the  
24 Texas Oil and Gas Commission. Any act of the Railroad Commission of  
25 Texas acting as the Texas Oil and Gas Commission on or after the  
26 effective date of this Act and before January 1, 2012, is an act of  
27 the Railroad Commission of Texas.

1           SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
5 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.