

By: Burnam

H.B. No. 1125

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to a study regarding the odorization of natural gas  
3 transported in gathering and transmission lines located in  
4 populated areas.

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

6 SECTION 1. (a) In this section, "commission" means the  
7 Railroad Commission of Texas.

8 (b) The commission shall conduct a study regarding the  
9 odorization of natural gas transported in gathering and  
10 transmission lines located in populated areas. At a minimum, the  
11 study must include an examination of:

12 (1) the costs and benefits associated with odorizing  
13 natural gas under those circumstances, including any specific  
14 circumstances under which the benefits exceed the costs;

15 (2) the chemical malodorants and odorization  
16 techniques that are available;

17 (3) any specific circumstances under which  
18 odorization is an effective method for leak detection;

19 (4) any product markets that are incompatible with the  
20 use of malodorants;

21 (5) state and federal odorization requirements,  
22 including exemptions from those requirements; and

23 (6) alternative leak detection methods.

24 (c) At the commission's request, a state agency or local

1 government shall provide information and assistance in conducting  
2 the study under this section.

3 (d) Not later than December 1, 2012, the commission shall  
4 report the results of the study conducted under this section to the  
5 lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives,  
6 the presiding officer of the standing committee of the senate with  
7 primary jurisdiction over matters affecting natural resources, and  
8 the presiding officer of the standing committee of the house of  
9 representatives with primary jurisdiction over matters affecting  
10 energy resources.

11 SECTION 2. This Act expires January 1, 2013.

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