

By: Davis

S.B. No. 1641

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the location for conducting certain hearings of the  
3 Railroad Commission of Texas.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 81, Natural Resources  
6 Code, is amended by adding Section 81.065 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 81.065. LOCATION FOR CONDUCTING CERTAIN HEARINGS. (a)  
8 In this section, "urban hydrocarbon-producing area" means an area  
9 consisting of the counties located wholly or partly above a  
10 hydrocarbon-producing geological formation that underlies all or  
11 part of two counties:

12 (1) that are adjacent to one another; and

13 (2) each of which has a population of more than 1.4  
14 million.

15 (b) This section applies only to a hearing held by the  
16 commission regarding:

17 (1) an application or other request to issue, renew,  
18 reopen, transfer, amend, extend, withdraw, suspend, revoke,  
19 terminate, or modify a permit, license, certificate, registration,  
20 or other authorization or approval under this title pertaining to  
21 an activity undertaken or to be undertaken in an urban  
22 hydrocarbon-producing area; or

23 (2) a violation of a provision of this title or a rule,  
24 order, permit, license, certificate, registration, or other

1 authorization or approval issued under this title occurring in an  
2 urban hydrocarbon-producing area.

3 (c) The commission shall hold the hearing in a county  
4 located in the urban hydrocarbon-producing area.

5 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
6 to an application or other request filed with the Railroad  
7 Commission of Texas or a violation occurring on or after the  
8 effective date of this Act. An application or other request filed  
9 with the commission or a violation occurring before the effective  
10 date of this Act is governed by the law as it existed immediately  
11 before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in  
12 effect for that purpose.

13 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.