

By: Keffer

H.B. No. 2571

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the inspection of certain information regarding the  
3 production, transportation, sale, and marketing of oil and gas from  
4 state land; imposing an administrative penalty.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 52.135, Natural Resources Code, is  
7 amended by adding Subsections (a-1), (a-2), and (e) to read as  
8 follows:

9 (a-1) Not later than the 60th day after the date of receipt  
10 of a request from the commissioner, the attorney general, or the  
11 governor for information described by Subsection (a), a lessee  
12 shall produce the requested information.

13 (a-2) A lessee who is unable to produce requested  
14 information in the time required by Subsection (a-1) must, not  
15 later than the 30th day after the date of receipt of a request for  
16 the information, reply in writing to the requestor and state the  
17 reason for the unavailability of the information and when the  
18 information will be available. A requestor who receives a reply  
19 under this subsection may extend the deadline for the production of  
20 the requested information.

21 (e) The commissioner may assess an administrative penalty  
22 against a lessee who fails to produce requested information in the  
23 time required under Subsection (a-1) or (a-2). The penalty may not  
24 exceed:

1           (1) \$100 a day for each day after the deadline for  
2 producing the information that the lessee fails to produce the  
3 information until the 60th day after the deadline; and

4           (2) \$1,000 a day for each day after the 60th day after  
5 the deadline for producing the information that the lessee fails to  
6 produce the information.

7           SECTION 2. Section 52.135, Natural Resources Code, as  
8 amended by this Act, applies only to a request for information made  
9 under that section on or after the effective date of this Act. A  
10 request for information made under that section before the  
11 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the  
12 date of the request, and the former law is continued in effect for  
13 that purpose.

14           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.