

By: Keffer

H.B. No. 2988

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the authority of the Railroad Commission of Texas to
3 adopt certain rules related to ratemaking procedures and to the
4 status of previously adopted rules.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 81.01001, Natural Resources Code, is
7 amended by adding Subsections (c) and (d) to read as follows:

8 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
9 commission may not adopt a rule that relates to the commission's
10 ratemaking proceedings, including a rule relating to discovery
11 limitations, alignment of parties, reimbursement of a
12 municipality's reasonable cost of participating in ratemaking
13 proceedings, or collection of rate case expenses from ratepayers of
14 gas utilities, unless the rule is identical in substance to a rule
15 that existed before January 1, 2014. This subsection expires on the
16 date stated in Subsection (a) for abolition of the commission.

17 (d) A rule adopted by the commission on or after January 1,
18 2014, and before September 1, 2015, that relates to the
19 commission's ratemaking proceedings, including a rule relating to
20 discovery limitations, alignment of parties, reimbursement of a
21 municipality's reasonable cost of participating in ratemaking
22 proceedings, or collection of rate case expenses from ratepayers of
23 gas utilities, is null and void.

24 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.