

By: Anchia

H.B. No. 858

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the posting by the Railroad Commission of Texas on its Internet website of certain enforcement information.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 81, Natural Resources Code, is amended by adding Section 81.073 to read as follows:

Sec. 81.073. ENFORCEMENT INFORMATION. (a) The commission shall post on the commission's Internet website:

(1) comprehensive information regarding the commission's enforcement of this title and rules, orders, licenses, permits, and certificates issued under this title, including information regarding:

(A) inspection and enforcement activity;

(B) violations; and

(C) the amount of penalties finally assessed;

(2) information evidencing quarterly trends regarding enforcement activity by the commission, including:

(A) the number of complaints received and the manner in which they were resolved;

(B) the total number of inspections conducted, the number of inspections conducted following the receipt of a complaint, and the number of inspections conducted on the commission's own initiative;

(C) the number of violations, categorized

1 according to the degree of severity of the violation and the  
2 statute, rule, order, license, permit, or certificate violated, for  
3 which enforcement action has been taken;

4 (D) the number of repeat violations determined to  
5 have been committed; and

6 (E) the number of violations referred to the  
7 attorney general for enforcement; and

8 (3) an analysis of annual trends regarding complaints  
9 filed with the commission and enforcement activity by the  
10 commission.

11 (b) Information required to be posted under this section  
12 must be:

13 (1) in a searchable format;

14 (2) organized by county, by operator or other entity,  
15 and by well, if applicable; and

16 (3) capable of being downloaded in bulk.

17 SECTION 2. The Railroad Commission of Texas shall comply  
18 with Section 83.073(b), Natural Resources Code, as added by this  
19 Act, not later than January 1, 2021.

20 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.