

By: Herrero

H.B. No. 4380

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the creation of the Environmental Task Force Advisory
3 Committee.

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

5 SECTION 1. (a) In this section:

6 (1) "Advisory committee" means the Environmental Task
7 Force Advisory Committee.

8 (2) "Commission" means the Railroad Commission of
9 Texas.

10 (b) The Environmental Task Force Advisory Committee is
11 composed of the following nine members appointed by the commission:

12 (1) seven representatives of the oil and gas industry,
13 including:

14 (A) one owner or operator of a facility that
15 handles oil and gas waste; and

16 (B) one representative of producers of oil and
17 gas;

18 (2) an environmental engineer with experience related
19 to environmental compliance; and

20 (3) an attorney with experience in the implementation
21 of environmental laws.

22 (c) Members of the advisory committee hold office for terms
23 of two years expiring February 1 of each odd-numbered year. A
24 member is ineligible to serve more than two consecutive full terms.

1 (d) The advisory committee shall select from its membership
2 a presiding officer and a secretary to serve for one-year terms.

3 (e) The advisory committee shall meet at least quarterly.

4 (f) The advisory committee may hold public hearings, formal
5 meetings, or work sessions. The advisory committee may not take
6 formal action at a public hearing, formal meeting, or work session
7 unless a quorum of the committee is present.

8 (g) A member of the advisory committee is not entitled to
9 receive compensation for service on the committee or reimbursement
10 for expenses incurred in the performance of official duties as a
11 member of the committee.

12 (h) The advisory committee shall:

13 (1) review the overall operation and structure of the
14 commission's environmental regulatory functions and rules adopted
15 by the commission to implement and enforce the commission's
16 environmental regulatory functions, including rules related to:

17 (A) any memorandum of understanding between the
18 commission and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
19 relating to the commission's environmental regulatory functions;
20 and

21 (B) the handling and disposal of oil and gas
22 waste; and

23 (2) provide recommendations to the commission for
24 proposed changes to improve and add clarity to rules related to the
25 commission's environmental regulatory functions.

26 (i) The advisory committee may adopt rules, procedures, and
27 policies as needed to administer this section and implement its

1 responsibilities.

2 (j) Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the
3 size, composition, or duration of the advisory committee.

4 (k) This section expires and the advisory committee is
5 dissolved on September 1, 2023.

6 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.