

By: Paddie

H.R. No. 1075

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, In March 2019, the Railroad Commission of Texas is
2 celebrating the 100th anniversary of its role in the regulation of
3 the oil and gas industry in the Lone Star State; and

4 WHEREAS, First established by the legislature in 1891, the
5 Railroad Commission was originally given jurisdiction over the
6 rates and operations of railroads, terminals, wharves, and express
7 companies; with the rapid rise in oil and gas production, the
8 commission was further tasked with oversight of the energy industry
9 in March 1919; and

10 WHEREAS, Today, the Railroad Commission's Oil and Gas
11 Division employs highly skilled petroleum engineers, professional
12 engineers, and professional geologists, as well as more than 160
13 trained field inspectors, who conduct thousands of inspections of
14 oil and gas operators every year, working to ensure the protection
15 of the public, the environment, and the economy; the commission
16 benefits from a century of regulatory experience, in such areas as
17 the spacing of wells, the protection of groundwater, water
18 recycling guidelines, and many others; and

19 WHEREAS, Looking ahead to the future, the RRC has implemented
20 a well-plugging program that is on track to plug 3,000 old wells
21 across the state at no cost to Texas taxpayers; in addition, the
22 commission is modernizing its information technology systems,
23 automating its permitting and reporting processes, and launching
24 the Online Inspection Lookup system, which allows the public to

1 access the inspection and violation history of oil and gas wells;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Over the past century, the Railroad Commission has
4 been instrumental not only in facilitating the responsible
5 management of our state's oil and gas natural resources but also in
6 promoting energy independence in the U.S., and this milestone year
7 provides a fitting opportunity to recognize the agency's
8 outstanding efforts; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
10 Legislature hereby commemorate the 100th anniversary of the
11 Railroad Commission's role in regulating the oil and gas industry
12 in Texas and extend to all those associated with the agency sincere
13 best wishes for continued success in their important work; and, be
14 it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for the Railroad Commission of Texas as an expression of
17 high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.