

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 2189

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: April 1, 2021 8:00 AM

Ben Brigham, Executive Chairman

Brigham Minerals/Brigham Exploration/Anthem Ventures

Austin, TX

I am grateful for your leadership. We have a number of companies primarily involved in oil and gas exploration, development and services. Our companies directly employ approximately 250 Texans, but our indirect impact on employment is a multiple of that (rigs, frack crews, trucking, etc.). The discrimination against fossil fuel companies by capital providers and businesses is materially impacting our ability to access capital, to hire and to grow. It disadvantages our companies relative to foreign producers that don't have the same environmental standards we do. It's therefore also detrimental to our national security, given that it increases our dependence on foreign oil supplies. In effect it exports jobs and imports their pollution, given that we share the same air and water resources. It has no impact on demand, it just hurts companies, jobs and our economy in Texas. It is irresponsible for our state to invest capital or do business with businesses and enterprises that discriminate against us and that are even seeking our destruction. Please stand up for Texas companies, our jobs, the state's economy and our national security.

Ernest Angelo

Self

Midland, TX

I support this bill and thank Rep. King for authoring it. Discrimination against fossil fuel companies by financial and other institutions is a direct slap at Texas. No Texas funds should go to support them in any way.

jim edsel

Texas Gas Partners

austin, TX

I own a non-operating energy and production company in Texas which owns interests in approximately 400 oil and gas wells in Texas. I also manage another non-operating company and own interests in various other oil and gas entities after having been an operator in Texas for two decades. I am writing in support of HB2189 and in opposition to hypocrisy, which seems to be the rule of the day in national politics, media and certainly in the "entertainment" industry. After 42 years in the oil and gas industry, I have witnessed the benefits our industry provides to hundreds of thousands of mineral-owning households throughout Texas and other producing states who then spread those benefits around their rural communities. Farmers, local businesses, municipalities, bank and their clients, accounting firms, restaurant owners, colleges and students and the list goes on of those who have benefited by Texas oil and gas. It would be impossible to list all of the various products made by oil and gas components, all of which have benefited and are used by people all over the world. In fact, even the hypocrites - those ardent opponents of oil and gas who use oil and gas and its many products in their every day lives - have benefited. Texas has always been a leader and the hope for freedom and liberty throughout our nation. I support and thank you for your leadership on this issue where Texas' message should be: if you want to use our products and then advocate anti-business views against our industries, our state will no longer do business with you. In fact, I wish our message was stronger - "if you won't sell your products to us, many of which are derived from Texas oil and gas - we will not sell you our products, including providing you our capital. Furthermore, fly your private jets elsewhere. If our industry is evil, so is our jet fuel so plan accordingly". Texas/Texans/liberty first.

John Turner, CFO

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:30 PM

Atlas Sand Company

Austin, TX

Thank you for your leadership. I have been involved in the Texas' oil and gas industry over 25 years. Up to this point I have never witnessed what I have seen over the past few years. The discrimination against fossil fuel companies and companies that provide services to those companies by capital providers and businesses is materially impacting our ability to access capital, to hire and to grow. We currently directly employ approximately 170 Texans, but our indirect impact on state employment is a multiple of that (rig, frack crews, trucking, local services, etc.). These actions put our domestic producers at a relative disadvantage when compared to foreign producers who are not held to the same environmental standards. This will eventually decrease domestic production and increase our dependence on foreign suppliers which is a national security risk. Additionally, these measures have no impact on demand, so the only real impact is to hurt companies, jobs, the Texas economy and its citizens. It is irresponsible for our state to support these actions by investing capital or doing business with those that discriminate against us and that are even seeking our destruction. Please stand up for Texas, its jobs, its citizens, its economy and our national security.

Keith Lillie

Brigham Exploration

Austin, TX

First, I would like to thank you for your leadership in bringing HB 2189 to the floor of the Texas House of Representatives. Fossil Fuels have been the financial backbone of Texas over multiple generations and continue to provide significant revenue to the State of Texas and Texas residents. The discriminatory practices by capital providers towards the fossil fuel industry is unjust and materially impacts our ability to compete in the worldwide energy market.

The Fossil Fuel industry in Texas directly employs over 300,000 Texans with high paying jobs that directly benefits the communities in which we live. Our company supports 20 full time employees, but our direct investments have a much further reaching benefit to Texas residents from service companies to the family owned convenience store in the communities in which we operate. All Texans, from the professional service providers to the rural farmers and ranchers across our state benefit from the successful development of Fossil Fuels in Texas. From lower electrical costs to lower fuel and fertilizer costs, the low-cost energy provided by the development of Fossil Fuels in Texas directly impacts our ability to compete in the world economy. Outsourcing our energy needs will only increase our dependence on foreign governments who are hostile to the United States and inflict more damage on our environment due to lax environmental regulations.

Texas has robust environmental regulations and energy policy for the development of Fossil Fuels. The need for affordable energy will continue to grow and can not be supported by renewables alone. If the Fossil Fuels are not produced in Texas and the United States, other countries will take over market share and continue to fill the void with inferior environmental regulations on their operations. Therefore, shipping our Fossil Fuel production overseas to less responsible environmental stewards will not only impact our financial stability, but it will also be more damaging to our environment (One Atmosphere) and empower our adversaries.

The direct discrimination against Fossil Fuel companies in Texas must not stand and should be addressed like any other discriminatory practice. The State of Texas has long stood for what is right and just for the people of Texas and the United States. I support you in your effort to stand up for Texas Companies, our Jobs, and our Country.

Parker Reese, Chairman and CEO

Ameredev II

Austin, TX

Energy is a fundamental need for people everywhere. Clean water, air conditioning, mechanized agriculture, personal mobility and many other benefits flow forth from the ready supply of energy. Texas is a world leader in energy production, distribution, and technology. What we do in this state with regards to our energy industry is watched all over the world.

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:30 PM

This bill protects the people of Texas and one of its most valuable industries from the politicization of capital markets. By disincentivizing others from boycotting certain energy companies, this bill can protect low cost reliable energy.

Energy transition efforts should be guided by laws wisely developed in legislative chambers and executed by private industry with a clear focus on capital allocation and project management. This bill helps to ensure the authority of the law, as an expression of the will of the people, to guide policy instead of unaccountable and unelected investment managers in far away cities.

Sincerely,

Parker Reese

Linda Evans, Ms.

Self-retired

Conroe, TX

I oppose HB 2189. It is against science and possibly infringes on free speech. It undercuts Texas being a business friendly state. Slows innovation and rewards fossil fuel industry which was largely responsible for the freeze disaster a few weeks ago. Vote NO HB 2189

Jeffrey Sparks

Self, Petroleum Engineer

MIDLAND, TX

Discriminating against fossil fuel companies is definitely anti-Texas. It does nothing to change the demand or the need for fossil fuels, but only advantages foreign companies that don't have the same environmental standards over our own local companies. ESG adversely discriminates against the poorest in our society because a higher percentage of their budget is for energy needs and discriminating against reliable fossil fuels will make our power grid less reliable increasing the chances of continually repeating what happened this past February. ESG by the big banks is just New York bullies trying to pull Texas down from the economic success that it has had. We need to send a message that Texas will not be bullied. Pass HB 2189 and let financial institutions know that Texas supports free market values not the social and political whims of the most vocal activists.

Angela Deaver

self

Midland, TX

Discriminating against fossil fuel companies is definitely anti-Texas. We need to send a message that Texas will not be bullied. Pass HB 2189 and let financial institutions know that Texas supports free market values not the social and political whims of the most vocal activists.

Robert Roosa, Chief Executive Officer

Brigham Minerals, Inc.

Austin, TX

Brigham Minerals, Inc. directly employs over 50 people in Austin and indirectly utilizes a multiple of that total to support our Company including individuals located in Dallas / Ft. Worth, Houston, San Antonio, and numerous towns in West Texas.

The oil & gas industry has been and will continue to be critical to all Texans. According to the Texas Oil & Gas Association, the oil & gas industry paid \$13.9 billion in state and local taxes and royalties in fiscal year 2020. Since 2007, the oil & gas industry

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:30 PM

has paid approximately \$162.9 billion in state and local taxes and royalties. Further, the industry directly employed over 400,000 Texans during 2020 and it's estimated that for every direct job the industry creates 2.4 incremental jobs for Texans. It's also estimated that the oil & gas industry's average annual wage was over \$128,000 per year versus \$59,000 for other Texas private sector employees. Finally, the oil & gas industry is critical to public education in Texas by supporting the Permanent School Fund and the Permanent University Fund by approximately \$1.7 billion in 2020.

Recently, a number of companies have attempted to cancel the oil & gas industry by precluding doing business with companies in our industry. These attempts to cancel Texas oil & gas will have a material detrimental impact to our State including our children, who rely on oil & gas funding to fuel their education. Our State should respond swiftly to these companies by precluding any State entity from doing business with a company that has cancelled oil & gas.

I thank you for your leadership on this issue.

Robert M. Roosa
Chief Executive Officer
Brigham Minerals, Inc.

Shad Frazier
self

MIDLAND, TX

As a Professional Engineer in the Energy industry, I have seen how market forces have changed capital availability. Banks are less likely to loan money for fossil fuel development. Projects require much more scrutiny to see if they meet ESG requirements. What this is doing is pushing more energy development overseas where the Environmental laws are less stringent. The Green movement in the USA is forcing foreign countries who need the power to develop less clean energy and pollute the world more. The Domestic Energy industry is doing everything we can to be less impactful while providing reliable cheap power. We have reduced CO2 emissions in the US by 18% in the last ten years through natural gas use. This power doesn't just feed homes and businesses. It is the geopolitical, economic weapon by which we help developing countries bring their citizens out of the dark and improve their lives. We have over 3 Billion world citizens still looking to have power in their homes and stop burning wood and dung to cook their food. The Texas Energy industry doesn't just fuel the US. It fuels the world. This law's passing allows the Texas Energy industry to do what we do best and provide cheap reliable power needed by the world.

Deborah Leiber
self / retired attorney
The Woodlands, TX

My name is Deborah Leiber. I am a Texan living in The Woodlands, Montgomery County and my zip code is 77381. I am writing to urge you to vote NO on HB 2189 that would require the State of Texas to cut ties with companies that refuse to invest in fossil fuels. Texas has a reputation as a business-friendly state and this bill would undercut this hard-earned reputation.

HB 2189 would also force Texas to move against its own interests and future economic strength. It would distort the free market by artificially propping up the fossil fuel industry, inhibit innovation, and possibly also infringe on free speech.

Please VOTE NO on HB 2189.

Kathryn Means
self

The Woodlands, TX

Please vote NO on HB 2189 that would make it illegal for state investment funds and companies to refuse to invest in fossil fuel companies. If you believe in free market capitalism this is a step in the wrong direction. It distorts free markets by artificially advantaging the fossil fuel industry this is already highly subsidized. It is also contradicts Texas's messaging that it is a business-

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:30 PM

friendly state. No doubt your campaign coffers have benefited from contributions from the fossil fuel industry.

Denzil West
APR Operating, LLC
Midland, TX

I am 100% in support of this bill that fights the inaccuracies propagated by environmentalists. clean affordable Texas Energy fuels our economy and gives humanity a clean energy source that raises the standard of living for all. if companies want to actively be against Texas Energy and its jobs then they should not be allowed to do business with Texas

Heiko Stang
Self
Wimberley, TX

I ask that you vote NO on HB 2189. This bill would require the State of Texas to cut ties with companies that refuse to invest in fossil fuels. Texas has a reputation as a business-friendly state and this bill would undercut that hard-earned reputation. HB 2189 would also force Texas to move against its own interests and future economic strength. It would distort the free market by artificially propping up the fossil fuel industry, inhibit innovation, and possibly also infringe on free speech. Please VOTE NO on HB 2189!

Jess Halpin
Self construction
Arlington, TX

As my state Rep I ask that you would SUPPORT this bill and vote yes. Think back about a month to the time which we almost lost our power grid, due to “green energy” such as the wind turbines that let us down in a time of great need. Without oil and fossil fuels Texas wouldn’t be nearly as great a place as it is to live. Texas and the fossil fuel industry have long been bound together to fuel the great economy which we have enjoyed. So to allow companies in our economy which seek to boycott the fossil fuel industry, is self sabotage and really wouldn’t be helping our environment anyways and certainly not our economy or the stability of our power grid.

Cynthia Lesky
Self / Retired
Austin, TX

My name is Cynthia Lesky. I am a Texan living in zip code 78731. I ask that you vote NO on HB 2189. This bill is incredibly intrusive into the free market that Republicans and moderates such as myself claim to support. This bill would require the State of Texas to cut ties with companies that refuse to invest in fossil fuels. How can Texas continue to claim to be a business-friendly state when it essentially creates an enemies list of businesses that do not invest in fossil fuels? This is a backward looking bill that bodes ill for our future. Please VOTE NO on HB 2189!

Glenna Sloan
Self-retired
Shenandoah, TX

HB 2189 (and identical SB 13) would require the State of Texas and its entities (including state pension funds and the state’s huge K-12 school endowment) to cut ties with companies that refuse to invest in fossil fuels. This bill is modeled after the anti-BDS (boycott, divestment and sanction) Israel bill that passed last session, but would do the same for companies that divest from fossil fuels.

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:30 PM

THIS IS JUST WRONG. Arm-twisting and extortion by another name

Nina Brodsky

self

Austin, TX

I ask that you vote NO on HB 2189. This bill would require the State of Texas to cut ties with companies that refuse to invest in fossil fuels. Texas has a reputation as a business-friendly state and this bill would undercut that hard-earned reputation. HB 2189 would also force Texas to move against its own interests and future economic strength. It would distort the free market by artificially propping up the fossil fuel industry, inhibit innovation, and possibly infringe on free speech. Please VOTE NO on HB 2189!

Cinda Hitchcock

self, retired

The Woodlands, TX

I oppose this bill because I am concerned about global warming and the need to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels.

Susan Kay Pace, Ms

Self

Conroe, TX

I oppose this bill and hope you will reconsider. Please reply and let me know what "positive" results will come from boycotting certain energy companies.

Georgia Keysor, Ms

Self - Retired

Austin, TX

I am Georgia Keysor, Austin and I I ask that you vote NO on HB 2189. This bill would require the State of Texas to cut ties with companies that refuse to invest in fossil fuels. Texas has a reputation as a business-friendly state and this bill would undercut that hard-earned reputation. HB 2189 would also force Texas to move against its own interests and future economic strength. It would distort the free market by artificially propping up the fossil fuel industry, inhibit innovation, and possibly infringe on free speech. Please VOTE NO on HB 2189!

Roman Smyslov

Self

Lubbock, TX

Loss of the energy industry would devastate the state.

Penny Bradshaw

Self, Retired

Spring, TX

I am writing to urge you to vote NO on House Bill 2189. This bill would require the State of Texas to cut ties with companies that

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:30 PM

refuse to invest in fossil fuels. Texas has a reputation as a business-friendly state and this bill would undercut this hard-earned reputation. Why bother recruiting Fortune 500 companies to move here with promises that Texas can help them achieve carbon neutrality while at the same time undermining those very efforts in order to prop up the dangerous oil industry? Need you be reminded of the ERCOT debacle? Texas needs to be better, more innovative, more "green", if they want to attract more companies to our state.

HB 2189 would force Texas to move against its own interests and future economic strength. It would distort the free market by artificially propping up the fossil fuel industry.

Please VOTE NO on HB 2189.

Thank you,

Penny Bradshaw

Mike Gauthé

Self

Midland, TX

This bill is good for Texas and the whole country. The energy industry extends much further than most realize and the impact of a lack of ongoing funding would be felt by everyone. I support it and encourage everyone to understand that our industry is more than just a bunch of careless people deliberately destroying our planet. We are very cognizant of that perception and have moved toward technology that addresses issues that some people are concerned with. We will do our part to make things better for future generations. We need to keep the oil and gas business moving forward and cooperating with alternative energy sources to provide a strong and safe future for all.

Karen Collins

Self

Austin, TX

Please do not let this bill go any farther. Texas is supposed to be business friendly. You are sending the wrong message. Just let it die.

Nancy Hathaway

Self—retired

The Woodlands, TX

OPPOSED!!

Carol Ortiz, Ms.

Self/Retired

Montgomery, TX

Please OPPOSE this crazy, unreasonable, overreach of government into private enterprise.

Jackie Hardee

Indivisible Texas Lege

Austin, TX

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:30 PM

I am in opposition to HB 2189. This bill interferes with business decisions for critical state funds and other state agencies. The decision on which entities to contract with to do state related business should not be based on the fact that the entity may have associations with non-fossil fuel businesses. Their association is not a value-driven decision. This bill not only creates a quagmire of reporting requirements, but it is structured simply as a bias in favor of fossil fuel companies. The state should focus instead of which companies offer the best services, the best expertise, and the best qualifications for their contract and business transactions. We want to encourage good business in Texas, not create hurdles. We want a robust economy, not one centered on a single industry. Let's do what's best for our state.

Cyral Miller

Austin TX

Austin, TX

My name is Cyral Miller I am a Texan living in Austin, and my zip code is 78756. I ask that you vote NO on HB 2189. This bill would require the State of Texas to cut ties with companies that refuse to invest in fossil fuels. Texas has a reputation as a business-friendly state and this bill would undercut that hard-earned reputation. HB 2189 would also force Texas to move against its own interests and future economic strength. It would distort the free market by artificially propping up the fossil fuel industry, inhibit innovation, and possibly infringe on free speech. Please VOTE NO on HB 2189!

Brianna Bertelson

Self

Midland, TX

I do not support this bill. I believe in equal opportunities and if certain energy companies generate a larger rate of return then invest! Please protect our future and stop the bias against the petroleum industry because this form of energy is the cheapest form of energy the keeps the lights on and is affordable.

Dick Schmidt, President

Viejo Energy I, LLC

Austin, TX

To Whom it May Concern,

For over 100 years, the Texas energy sector has been a necessary part of our country's prosperity, supplying inexpensive and safe energy, not to mention petroleum bi-products such as plastics, that allow our nation's economy to flourish. It is only in recent years that the fossil fuels industry has come under attack by the climate alarmists, most recently in this push to get investment banks to divest from the oil and gas sector, a move which for obvious reasons will be devastating to the Texas economy. As president and part owner of Viejo Energy I, LLC, a small oil and gas company, I am very concerned about efforts to emasculate domestic oil and gas production. Even as a small outfit over the past 10 years we've spent roughly 80 million dollars supporting hundreds of contractors who take care of operations such as drilling, well maintenance, transportation, salt water disposal, as well as administrative workers such as accountants and landmen--just to name a few of the livelihoods that would be affected if our company doesn't survive the all out attack on the fossil fuel industry at every level. Additionally we pay out two to five million dollars in royalties to landowners, which is money that gets poured into the Texas economy. And we are only one of a multitude of small companies like ours. While we are a small operation and do not seek capital from outside investors, the climate hysteria and attack on the fossil fuels industry is very damaging to us as our purchasers downstream being obliterated will rob us of our market.

We therefore support HB2189, and thank you for standing up for the industry that has been the mainstay of the Texas economy for over a hundred years.

Respectfully,

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:30 PM

Dick Schmidt
President,
Viejo Energy I, LLC

Matthew Faudree
Faudree Land LLC
Midland, TX

I appreciate what you are doing for our industry and Texas. Our family has been in the oil and gas business, for three generations we are very much in support of legislation that stop this kind of nonsense. We struggle now as an industry that is vital to our national security and not become dependent on buying foreign Oil. Our own government has placed so many regulations on the Oil and Gas industry that put the US at a disadvantage in competing with other countries who have little to no environmental regulations. Not to mention the loss of jobs and the economic hard ship on our local economy. The last thing the state needs to fund and or support any company that seeks to destroy our industry. Thank you

Brent Bennett
Texas Public Policy Foundation, Life:Powered
Austin, TX

Chairman Paddie and Members of the Committee:

Life:Powered, a project of the Texas Public Policy Foundation to raise America's energy IQ, is testifying in support of HB 2189. As an organization committed to limited government, TPPF is not inclined to seek policy responses for misguided corporate behavior. However, the movement among financial institutions and other businesses to collude against American energy producers has reached a point where it demands a response from our states. Not only does it negatively impact our vital energy businesses and threaten our energy independence, it also strikes at the heart of many bedrock principles of capitalism that have made our country so prosperous.

Environmental, social, and governance (ESG) investing goals are appropriate when those goals benefit a company's shareholders. However, a problem arises when advocacy groups force corporate boards to place narrow political agendas above their fiduciary responsibilities. This is especially true for the aspect of the ESG movement that focuses on climate change and carbon emissions. A prominent example is the Climate Action 100+ group, whose members, which include BlackRock and JPMorgan Chase, are responsible for over \$52 trillion in assets. These members are asked to "engage" companies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in a manner consistent with the Paris Agreement's goals. By placing a myopic focus on carbon emissions, these groups cause company resources to be misallocated away from other relevant environmental, social, and financial goals, thereby harming the company's shareholders.

More concerning, however, is that we are now seeing major banks and investment firms collude to deny financing and investment to energy companies that will not kowtow to costly emissions pledges and sustainability standards. We have heard from many Texas oil and gas operators that they would be able to drill more and to hire more people if they had better access to financing and that this boycotting movement is driving many of those financing decisions. The State of Alaska is having to invest its own money to develop new Arctic oil and gas reserves because the major banks and oil and gas companies will not invest there.

While legal strategies have been contemplated to fight this collusion—and we plan to publish research on those strategies very soon—there is not yet a clear legal mechanism to stop it. However, one solution is to turn the tables on the banks. If they will not do business with Texas' responsible energy producers, we will not do business with them. Several other energy-producing states are considering similar legislation, and the collective purchasing power of our states can be used to enact a meaningful penalty on these companies. This bill will help ensure our state's purchases and investments should be consistent with our values, and we encourage the committee to support it.

Brent Bennett
Policy Director, Life:Powered
Texas Public Policy Foundation

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:30 PM

Tricia Davis
Texas Royalty Council
Dripping Springs, TX

This bill is important for Texas. Affordable, reliable and abundant Oil and Gas.
Thank you Rep King

William Stevens, Consultant
Panhandle Producers and Royalty Owners Association
Austin, TX

PPROA supports HB 2189.

William Stevens, Consultant
Panhandle Producers and Royalty Owners Association
Austin, TX

PPROA strongly SUPPORTS HB 2189.

Annie Compton
self Artist
Austin, TX

My name is Annie Compton I am a Texan living in Austin and my zip code is 78757 I ask that you vote NO on HB 2189.
This bill would require the State of Texas to cut ties with companies that refuse to invest in fossil fuels. Texas has a reputation as a business-friendly state and this bill would undercut that hard-earned reputation.
HB 2189 would also force Texas to move against its own interests and future economic strength.
It would distort the free market by artificially propping up the fossil fuel industry, inhibit innovation, and possibly infringe on free speech.
Please VOTE NO on HB 2189!
Thank you
Annie Comptpn

Catharine Wall
Self; Unemployed/Retired Teacher
Austin, TX

I oppose HB 2189. Keep partisan politics out of state contracts.

Nick Naul
Self
Frisco, TX

Blindly following fools as they rush toward a “green new deal” is foolish at best and criminal in light of what took place across most of Texas during the recent “polar Express”. How many Texans need to die for political correctness when we know wind and solar energy doesn’t function in bad weather or when it’s dark or when the wind doesn’t blow? All green energy does today is

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:30 PM

support our “friends” in China, Iran, Venezuela, and Russia. HB 2189 protects the fossil fuel industry that has acted responsibly for decades and will continue to be needed long into our future. Please support HB 2189. Thank you.

Dede Fox

Self Writer/Educator

The Woodlands, TX

Opposed

Richard Windom

Self/ Chemical Engineer

Waxahachie, TX

I support this bill as a Texas Citizen! Keep companies from being able to leave out our Texas Oil and gas industry that supports US, Our teachers, our great state, and our country.

Patricia Garris

Self/retired

Spring, TX

I oppose HB 2189 that would penalize Texans who move us towards the future by divesting from fossil fuels. It is important to remember that the future is coming and with that countries and states that are really smart about the future, Texas must face the music and get in front of the pack, not get stuck in old energy thinking. Organizations must have the freedom to make their best decisions without fear of penalty.

Laurel Hays, Dr.

Self

Houston, TX

Vote NO on HB 2189. This bill would require the State of Texas to cut ties with companies that refuse to invest in fossil fuels. Texas is a business-friendly state and this bill would damage that reputation by interjecting prejudicial requirements on internal business decisions. HB 2189 would also force Texas to move against its own interests and future economic strength, since we are well aligned to lead on alternative energy. It would distort the free market by artificially propping up the fossil fuel industry, inhibit innovation, and possibly also infringe on free speech. Please VOTE NO on HB 2189!