

By: Rosenthal

H.B. No. 459

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the establishment by the Railroad Commission of Texas  
3 of a policy to eliminate the routine flaring of natural gas from  
4 wells or other facilities regulated by the commission.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 86, Natural Resources  
7 Code, is amended by adding Section 86.186 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 86.186. ELIMINATION OF ROUTINE FLARING. (a) The  
9 commission by rule shall establish a policy to eliminate before  
10 December 31, 2031, the routine flaring of gas from wells or other  
11 facilities regulated by the commission.

12 (b) The policy may include:

13 (1) regulatory, incentive-based, or voluntary  
14 approaches for achieving the goals of the policy; and

15 (2) interim goals for individual wells or other  
16 facilities or for operators of wells or other facilities.

17 (c) Except as provided by Subsection (d), the policy must  
18 allow flaring for safety or emergency purposes or purposes  
19 authorized under Section 86.185.

20 (d) The policy may not allow flaring to be conducted for an  
21 extended period for a purpose that is not related to safety or an  
22 emergency.

23 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.