



TIPRO BILL TRACK 1.15.2025

01-15-2025 - 11:55:09

- Action in the date range - Link to Related Information () - Priority

All Tracked Bills

HB 188 Landgraf, Brooks(R) Relating to the allocation of certain constitutional transfers of money to certain funds and accounts, including the Texas severance tax revenue and oil and natural gas (Texas STRONG) defense fund.

General Remarks: HB 188 creates the "Texas Severance Tax Revenue and Oil and Natural Gas (Texas STRONG) Defense Fund" that utilizes severance tax revenues in the ESF for economic and community development in counties significantly engaged in oil and gas production. This funding mechanism aims to address various needs including public safety, healthcare, and infrastructure through a formal grant program, thereby bolstering support for communities affected by the oil and gas sector while enhancing the state's ability to respond to associated challenges.

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

HB 206 Craddick, Tom(R) Relating to limitations on a county's authority to require a cash bond before approving the construction of a pipeline.

General Remarks: HB 206 prohibits a county from requiring a cash bond as a condition of approval for the construction of a pipeline in the county's boundaries unless the county grants the person proposing the construction of the pipeline the right to approve or deny the use of the bond proceeds. If a person denies the use of the bond proceeds under the person is entitled to a full refund of the cash bond.

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

HB 263 Guillen, Ryan(R) Relating to the grant program distributing money from the transportation infrastructure fund.

General Remarks: HB 263 changes the distribution amounts to qualifying projects in the grant program of the transportation infrastructure fund to reduce the amounts of funds going directly to oil and gas producing areas and redistribute those amounts to adjacent counties.

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

HB 265 Craddick, Tom(R) Relating to the allocation of certain constitutional transfers of money to the economic stabilization fund, the state highway fund, and the Grow Texas fund and to the permissible uses of money deposited to the Grow Texas fund.

Companions: [HB 1392](#) Craddick, Tom (Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks: House Bill 265 by Rep. Craddick is the enabling legislation for House Joint Resolution 35 that creates the GROW Texas Fund in the constitution. House Joint Resolution 35, which establishes the GROW Texas Fund Commission and the transfer of 12 percent of what would otherwise be revenue deposited to the ESF, requires the commission and the comptroller to jointly establish a program under which the commission would select applicants to receive grants provided by the comptroller to construct or maintain roads, schools, health care facilities and other infrastructure in the areas the commission determines to be significantly affected by oil and gas production. The bill requires the comptroller to adopt rules to implement and administer the program.

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

HB 459 Rosenthal, Jon(D) Relating to the establishment by the Railroad Commission of Texas of a policy to eliminate the routine flaring of natural gas from wells or other facilities regulated by the commission.

Companions: [HB 1459](#) Rosenthal, Jon (Refiled from 88R Session)
[SB 2130](#) Miles, Borris (Refiled from 88R Session)


General Remarks: House Bill 459 is a refile of a bill from last session (HB 1459/SB 2130) that requires the RRC to establish a policy to end routine flaring by 2031. The policy may be regulatory action, incentive-based, or voluntary and it may allow for flaring for safety and emergency purposes. It is also a refile of HB 1452 87R which never received a hearing.

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

HB 553 Patterson, Jared(R) Relating to the permitting of renewable energy generation facilities by the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

General Remarks: House Bill 553 requires the PUC to begin permitting for all renewable energy generation facilities in the state, past and present. The bill also creates the renewable energy generation facility cleanup fund which consists of permit fees, private contributions and legislative appropriations to be used to implement the bill.


Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

 **HB 575** Rosenthal, Jon(D) Relating to preparation for and response to weather emergencies that affect certain natural gas facilities.

Companions: [HB 3181](#) Rosenthal, Jon (Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks: HB 575 creates a penalty ladder for gas supply chain facilities subject to weatherization that violate RRC weatherization rules: 1st violation \$100-\$1000. 2nd: \$1,000-\$50,000. 3rd: \$50,000-\$1,000,000 (previously penalties were capped at \$5,000 except for highest class of violations.) The bill is a refile from last session (HB 3181) that never was left pending in committee.

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

 **HB 853** Reynolds, Ron(D) Relating to the issuance of air quality permits for certain facilities located in a nonattainment area.

Companions: [HB 3433](#) Reynolds, Ron (Refiled from 88R Session)
[SB 1920](#) Miles, Borris (Refiled from 88R Session)
[SB 429](#) Miles, Borris (Identical)
11-21-24 S Filed

General Remarks: SB 429/HB 853 (refile of HB 3433/SB 3433 no hearings) would require TCEQ to conduct an analysis of alternate locations, sizes, production processes, and environmental control techniques that determine whether the benefit of a facility significantly outweigh environmental and social costs prior to approving a permit for the construction or major modification of a facility that is a major stationary source and is located or proposed to be located in a designated nonattainment area. In conducting the analysis, TCEQ is required to consider the cumulative impacts that would result from issuance of the permit without changes to the site location, size,

production processes, and environmental control techniques.

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

 [HB 859](#) Reynolds, Ron(D)

Relating to the establishment of the Texas Environmental Justice Advisory Council.

Companions: [HB 642](#) Reynolds, Ron (Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks: House Bill 859 (refile HB 642 88R) creates the environmental Justice Council to advise state agencies and local governments on environmental justice issues. Defines environmental justice as the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes in the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental law and policy. The council is charged with reviewing state agencies and programs intended to protect the environment, as well as environmental permits issued and applied for and assess them their positive or negative effects on environmental justice. (Refile of HB 714 87R that never received a hearing.)

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

 [HB 862](#) Harrison, Brian(R)

Relating to the labeling, advertising, and sale of products as "zero emissions."

General Remarks: House Bill 862 would create a Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act violation if a product sold in this state was labeled "zero emissions" and the product produces greenhouse gas emissions when used; greenhouse gas emissions were produced in the manufacturing of the product; or greenhouse gas emissions are produced to provide electricity to charge the product's rechargeable battery.

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

 [HB 1050](#) Dorazio, Mark(R)

Relating to the award of attorney's fees in certain suits involving a groundwater conservation district.

Companions: [HB 2119](#) Dorazio, Mark (F) (Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks: House Bill 1050 awards the prevailing party of a groundwater conservation district suit attorney's fees, costs for expert witnesses and other incurred costs, providing that the GWCD does not voluntarily intervenes. Under current law, the court is required to award such fees to the GWCD.

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

A HB 1145 Morales Shaw, Penny(D) Relating to a study regarding the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals in hydraulic fracturing.

Companions: HB 4577 Morales Shaw, Penny (Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks: HB 1145 requires a department or entity at the university Houston to conduct, in collaboration with the Railroad Commission of Texas and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, a study on the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals in the hydraulic fracturing process.

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

A HB 1169 Raymond, Richard(D) Relating to the adoption of a comprehensive plan to protect oil and gas infrastructure in this state.

Companions: HB 578 Raymond, Richard (Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks: HB 1169 (Refile of HB 578 88R) requires the RRC to develop and adopt a comprehensive plan to protect this state's oil and gas infrastructure, including wellheads and pipelines, from: (1) natural disasters; (2) severe weather events; (3) cybersecurity threats; (4) acts of terrorism; (5) widespread power outages; and (6) other potential threats to this state's oil and gas infrastructure. HB 4223 87R was never heard.

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

A HB 1174 Hinojosa, Gina(D) Relating to a requirement that an applicant for a permit to drill an oil or gas well submit a gas capture plan for the well.

General Remarks: HB 1174 prohibits the RRC from issuing a permit to drill, deepen, plug back, or reenter an oil or gas well unless the applicant submits with the application a gas capture plan to minimize flaring from the well. The bill lays out many onerous requirements for the plan.

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

A HB 1190 Hinojosa, Gina(D) Relating to the reduction of methane gas flaring on land dedicated to the permanent university fund.

Companions: [HB 1276](#) Hinojosa, Gina (Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks: HB 1190, a refile from last session, requires the board of regents of the UT System to adopt a formal policy goal to eliminate routine flaring on university lands by 2027. Requires each lease issued, modified, or renewed to include a plan to end routine flaring; to adhere to EPA new source performance standards; and to implement quarterly inspection and maintenance for the detection of leaks. The bill permits the board to apply to new and existing facilities that have been modified more stringent standards than the board applies to other facilities. HB 1512 87R never received a hearing.

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

 [HB 1230](#) Turner, Chris(D)

Relating to the requirement of a public hearing on certain applications for a permit to drill an oil or gas well.

Companions: [HB 1194](#) Turner, Chris (Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks: HB 1230 (refile HB 1194) would require that applicants for new oil or gas wells disclose on their application whether the proposed well site is located within 1500 ft of the property line of a child care facility, private school, primary or secondary public school, or a facility that is owned by a school district and used by students enrolled in the school district.

The bill prohibits the RRC from granting an application for a well located within 1500 feet of one of the above facilities unless a public hearing was held to receive public comments on whether the location of the well site was in the public interest and the commission took public comments into consideration when determining whether to grant the application. (earthworks)

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

 [HB 1238](#) Guillen, Ryan(R)

Relating to the inspection of the location of a proposed Class I injection well.

Companions: [HB 4120](#) Guillen, Ryan (Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks: House Bill 1238 (refile of HB 4120, 88R passed the house) would allow the executive director of

TCEQ to satisfy the requirement for inspection of proposed disposal wells by accepting an inspection report prepared by a state licensed engineer or geoscientist. The report must confirm the engineer or geoscientist inspected the location to determine local conditions and probable effects of the well; as well as state the professional's determination regarding the requirements for the setting of casing. An engineer or geoscientist would be permitted to do the inspection in person or virtually through satellite, aerial imagery, mapping software, or another appropriate information source.

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

 [HB 1285](#)

[Geren, Charlie\(R\)](#)

Relating to inspections and examinations by the Railroad Commission of Texas of certain sites and facilities conducted using unmanned aircraft.

Companions:

[HB 1302](#) [Geren, Charlie](#)

(Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks:

HB 1285 amends law regarding unmanned aircrafts to allow for drone inspections and examinations by RRC of an oil or gas site or facility, including a well, tank, or disposal or injection site; a pipeline facility; or a surface mining site. Refile of HB 1302 that bill passed the House last session and died in the Senate.

Bill History: 11-13-24 H Filed

 [HB 1341](#)

[Reynolds, Ron\(D\)](#)

Relating to establishment of maximum allowable ground level concentrations of hydrogen sulfide by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

General Remarks:

HB 1341 requires TCEQ establish a maximum allowable ground level of concentrations of hydrogen sulfide.

Bill History: 11-14-24 H Filed

 [HB 1400](#)

[Harris, Cody\(R\)](#)

Relating to creation of the groundwater science, research, and innovation fund to be administered by the Texas Water Development Board.

Companions:

[SB 718](#) [Kolkhorst, Lois](#)
1- 6-25 S Filed

(Identical)

General Remarks:

House Bill 1400/Senate Bill 718 establishes the Groundwater Science, Research and Innovation Fund in the state treasury to be administered by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). The purpose of the fund is to provide grants to groundwater conservation districts (GCDs) for

programs and projects that will further groundwater science, research and innovation. The bill provides criteria to the TWDB in application evaluation. HB 1400 requires that at least 35% of the money in the fund be used to fund programs or projects in GCDs with population of less than 100,000 and annual revenues of not more than \$250,000. The bill allows the TWDB to require matching funds that may include GCD direct expenditures or in-kind services up to 25% of the amount of the grant. This is an EDF bill and they are asking for a \$15 million appropriation.

Bill History: 11-19-24 H Filed

 HB 1412

Allen, Alma(D)

Relating to the location of certain public meetings for certain permits issued by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Companions:

HB 766 Allen, Alma

(Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks:

HB 1412 (refile of HB 766 88R/HB 960 87R) holds that when the executive director of the TCEQ elects to hold a solid waste, waste water or injection well permitting hearing in a county in which the facility is located or proposed to be located, the meeting must be held in the House District where the facility is located or proposed to be located. (Past bills have received hearings.)

Bill History: 11-19-24 H Filed

 HB 1438

Zwiener, Erin(D)

Relating to climate change planning and reporting.

Companions:

HB 57 Zwiener, Erin

(Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks:

HB 1438 is a refile of HB 57 from last session that requires TCEQ and Office of the state climatologist to prepare a report on the potential impact of climate change in Texas every 4 years. This bill has not received a hearing in the 2 past sessions.

Bill History: 11-21-24 H Filed

 HB 1523

Gerdes, Stan(R)

Relating to a prohibition on the authorization by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality of the use of a Class V injection well for certain aquifer storage and recovery projects.

General Remarks:

HB 1523 is a bracketed bill that prohibits the RRC from issuing a class V injection well permit in a Bastrop County groundwater conservation district.

Bill History: 12-05-24 H Filed

A HB 1526 Gonzalez, Mary(D) Relating to a study by Texas State University on the expected effects of future climate change in this state and the preparedness of this state to address those effects.

General Remarks: HB 1526 requires the Texas State University System to conduct a study on the expected effects of climate change in the state and our preparedness to mitigate the effects.

Bill History: 12-05-24 H Filed

A HB 1633 Gerdes, Stan(R) Relating to the criteria considered by groundwater conservation districts before granting or denying a permit or permit amendment.

Companions: SB 624 Kolkhorst, Lois (Identical)
12-16-24 S Filed

General Remarks: House Bill 1633/Senate Bill 624 requires that before granting or denying a permit or permit amendment a groundwater conservation district must consider whether the proposed use of water unreasonably affects wells that are registered with the district and exempt from the requirement to obtain a permit.

Bill History: 12-16-24 H Filed

A HB 1647 Landgraf, Brooks(R) Relating to the establishment of a theft of petroleum products task force.

Companions: SB 494 Sparks, Kevin (F) (Identical)
11-22-24 S Filed

General Remarks: HB 1647/SB 494 by Rep. Landgraf/Senator Sparks requires the RRC to create a task force focused on preventing the theft of petroleum products. The task force is required to include representatives from the oil and gas industry, an energy trade association, and law enforcement agencies. The task force is required to meet quarterly and may conduct meetings virtually. The task force will conduct a continuous study on the theft of petroleum products, including reviewing laws in other jurisdictions and analyzing impacts on sales tax and long-term economics. Recommendations from the committee must include outreach and training for law enforcement on combating theft. The task force is permitted to consult with external organizations and share information on criminal investigations, providing exceptions to some confidentiality rules. Finally, SB 494 requires a report to be submitted biennially to the governor, the lieutenant

governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, the RRC, and each standing committee of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over oil and gas matters, emphasizing legislative recommendations for transparency, security, and economic impacts related to theft.

Bill History: 12-17-24 H Filed

A HB 1663 Ashby, Trent(R)

Relating to a credit or refund for diesel fuel taxes paid on diesel fuel used in this state by auxiliary power units or power take-off equipment.

Companions:

SB 1438	Springer, Drew	(Refiled from 88R Session)
SB 771	Hinojosa, Chuy	(Identical)

1-13-25 S Filed

General Remarks:

House Bill 1663 would provide for a credit or refund for diesel fuel taxes paid on diesel fuel used in Texas by auxiliary power units or power take-off equipment.

Bill History: 12-18-24 H Filed

A HB 1725 Hopper, Andy (F)(R)

Relating to the applicability of certain federal environmental regulations to motor vehicles that are manufactured, sold, and operated exclusively in this state.

General Remarks:

HB 1725 exempts from federal regulation motor vehicles that are completely manufactured, sold, and operated exclusively in Texas. All parts must be made in Texas.

Bill History: 01-02-25 H Filed

A HB 1730 Morales Shaw, Penny(D)

Relating to a study regarding the effects of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals on public health.

Companions:

SB 768	Menendez, Jose	(Identical)
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1-13-25 S Filed

General Remarks:

HB 1730 requires UofH, RRC, and TCEQ to conduct a study on the effects of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals on public health. The report is due to the legislature not later than December 1, 2026.

Bill History: 01-03-25 H Filed

A HB 1808 Landgraf, Brooks(R)

Relating to the regulation and management of produced water from oil and gas operations.

General Remarks: House Bill 1808 by Rep. Landgraf provides in statute regulatory authority over the recycling and beneficial use of produced water associated with the drilling and production of oil and gas as well as operation abandonment and plugging of wells to the Railroad Commission of Texas. The bill allows for the RRC to create and enforce rules related to regulatory authority as well as issue permits. The bill also establishes a requirement for the commission to assist applicants in preparing and submitting permit applications for discharging produced water. (produced water shell bill)

Bill History: 01-09-25 H Filed

 HJR 27

Goodwin, Vikki(D)

Proposing a constitutional amendment guaranteeing the right to a clean and healthy environment.

Companions:

HJR 119 Goodwin, Vikki

(Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks:

HJR 27 proposes a constitutional amendment guaranteeing the right to a clean and healthy environment.

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

 HJR 35

Craddick, Tom(R)

Proposing a constitutional amendment providing for the creation of and use of money in the Grow Texas fund and allocating certain general revenues to that fund.

General Remarks:

HJR 35 is the constitutional amendment authorizing the GROW Texas Fund paid for with oil and gas production taxes that would dedicate money in the fund to benefit areas of the state from which oil and gas are produced. The GROW Texas Fund will be established in the treasury and will be added to the list of funds eligible for transfers from oil and gas production tax revenues, currently the Economic Stabilization Fund, or ESF, and the Highway Fund. The bill preserves the legislative authority to protect transfers to the ESF by general law. In determining the amount otherwise to be transferred to the ESF, the bill requires the comptroller to reduce it by 12 percent and to transfer that amount to the GROW Texas Fund, up to a maximum of \$250 million in a fiscal biennium. The bill restricts appropriations from the GROW Texas Fund to areas from which oil and gas are produced and only to address infrastructure needs as defined by general law in areas determined by the legislature to be

significantly affected by oil and gas production. It allows general law to provide for the appropriation for grants to state agencies and political subdivisions and requires the comptroller to transfer any unobligated and unappropriated money that remains in the GROW Texas Fund at the end of a biennium to the ESF. The bill establishes a GROW Texas Fund Commission to administer the appropriations and to advise the legislature on making appropriations, which would be comprised of seven members serving four-year terms. The lieutenant governor and House speaker would be required to appoint two members each from their respective chambers and the governor would appoint three members of the public, including the commission's presiding officer.

Bill History: 11-12-24 H Filed

A HJR 107 Landgraf, Brooks(R) Proposing a constitutional amendment protecting the right to engage in the exploration for and production and export of oil, gas, and other minerals.

General Remarks: HJR 107 creates a constitutional amendment that would protect the right to engage in the exploration for and production and export of oil, gas, and other minerals.

Bill History: 01-03-25 H Filed

A SB 273 Miles, Borris(D) Relating to the consideration of the cumulative effects of air contaminant emissions in the emissions permitting process.

Companions: SB 179 Miles, Borris (Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks: Senate Bill 273 (refile of SB 179, 88R) (refile of SB 87, 87R did not receive a committee hearing) requires TCEQ to consider the cumulative effects on public health and property of expected air emissions from a new or modified facility, including other facilities within 3 miles. Makes permitting process more difficult.

Bill History: 11-12-24 S Filed

A SB 279 Miles, Borris(D) Relating to contested case hearings on the issuance, renewal, or revocation of authorizations to use certain standard air quality permits.

General Remarks: Senate Bill 279 allows for a person to be able to request a contesting case hearing from TCEQ on the issuance, renewal, or revocation of a standard

permit under the Clean Air Act if the person alleges that the issuance, renewal, or revocation is in conflict with a provision of the Clean Air Act.

Bill History: 11-12-24 S Filed

A SB 291 Schwertner, Charles(R) Relating to the failure to disclose certain appraisal reports by an entity with eminent domain authority in connection with an offer to acquire real property.

Companions: SB 1512 Schwertner, Charles (Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks: SB 291 (refile SB 1512) by Sen. Schwertner would allow an entity with eminent domain authority that fails to disclose any and all appraisal reports to an owner regarding their property which the entity wishes to acquire, to be held liable to the property owner for reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the owner in connection with the entity's acquisition of the owner's property.

Bill History: 11-12-24 S Filed

A SB 292 Schwertner, Charles(R) Relating to certain requirements in connection with the acquisition of real property for public use by an entity with eminent domain authority.

Companions: SB 1513 Schwertner, Charles (Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks: SB 292 (refile SB 1513 passed Senate) by Sen. Schwertner makes various changes to laws governing eminent domain proceedings. The bill would change required disclosures in the landowner's bill of rights, including adding a requirement that the statement disclose the condemning entity's responsibility for any damages arising from an examination or survey of the property. The statement would also disclose the property owner's right to refuse to grant permission to the condemning entity to enter the property to conduct an examination or survey; would notify the property owner of their right to negotiate terms of the examination or survey; and the condemning entity's right to sue for a court order to authorize examination/survey of the property if the property owner refuses to grant permission. Additionally, the statement would require a condemning entity to identify real property the entity does not seek to acquire by condemnation; and make a separate offer for that property than for the real property the entity

seeks to acquire via condemnation proceeding. The bill would require certain information be disclosed conspicuously on any form an entity with eminent domain authority uses to request owner's permission to enter property for a survey - information that must be provided includes: the right of the owner to refuse permission to enter the property; disclosure that the entity has the right to sue to gain access; the owner has the right to negotiate terms of an examination of the property; and that the entity has responsibility for any damages resulting from the examination or survey of the property. The bill would change the timing of when the landowner's bill of rights must be provided to the property owner - currently law requires the statement be provided when an authority makes a final offer. SB 1513 would require the statement be disclosed at the time the initial offer is made. The bill would also remove the grace period of "No later than 7 days" for the timing of the statement.

Bill History: 11-12-24 S Filed

A SB 391

Sparks, Kevin (F)(R)

Relating to a reliability plan for electric transmission service in the Permian Basin.

General Remarks: SB 391 removes the expiration date from HB 5066 (88R) that requires ERCOT to develop an energy reliability plan for the Permian Basin and requires the plan to be updated every 5 years.

Bill History: 11-19-24 S Filed

A SB 429

Miles, Borris(D)

Relating to the issuance of air quality permits for certain facilities located in a nonattainment area.

Companions:

<p>HB 3433 Reynolds, Ron</p> <p>SB 1920 Miles, Borris</p> <p>HB 853 Reynolds, Ron</p>	<p>(Refiled from 88R Session)</p> <p>(Refiled from 88R Session)</p> <p>(Identical)</p>
<p>11-12-24 H Filed</p>	

General Remarks: SB 429/HB 853 (refile of HB 3433/SB 3433 no hearings) would require TCEQ to conduct an analysis of alternate locations, sizes, production processes, and environmental control techniques that determine whether the benefit of a facility significantly outweigh environmental and social costs prior to approving a permit for the construction or major modification of a facility that is a major stationary source and is located or proposed to be located in a designated nonattainment area. In conducting the analysis,

TCEQ is required to consider the cumulative impacts that would result from issuance of the permit without changes to the site location, size, production processes, and environmental control techniques.

Bill History: 11-21-24 S Filed

 SB 494

Sparks, Kevin (F)(R)

Relating to the establishment of a theft of petroleum products task force.

Companions: [HB 1647](#) Landgraf, Brooks (Identical)
12-17-24 H Filed

General Remarks: Senate Bill 494 by Senator Sparks requires the RRC to create a task force focused on preventing the theft of petroleum products. The task force is required to include representatives from the oil and gas industry, an energy trade association, and law enforcement agencies. The task force is required to meet quarterly and may conduct meetings virtually. The task force will conduct a continuous study on the theft of petroleum products, including reviewing laws in other jurisdictions and analyzing impacts on sales tax and long-term economics. Recommendations from the committee must include outreach and training for law enforcement on combating theft. The task force is permitted to consult with external organizations and share information on criminal investigations, providing exceptions to some confidentiality rules. Finally, SB 494 requires a report to be submitted biennially to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, the RRC, and each standing committee of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over oil and gas matters, emphasizing legislative recommendations for transparency, security, and economic impacts related to theft.

Bill History: 11-22-24 S Filed

 SB 561

Eckhardt, Sarah(D)


Relating to the creation of the Office of Environmental Justice within the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Companions: [SB 788](#) Eckhardt, Sarah (Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks: Senate Bill 561 (refiled of SB 788 never received a hearing) would create the Office of Environmental Justice (office) within TCEQ with the stated purpose of protecting the public health, general welfare, and physical property of environmental justice communities regarding issuance of permits. Environmental justice

communities are defined as a census block group wherein 30% or more of the non-institutionalized population is made up of people who have income below 200% of the federal poverty level or 50% or more of the population consists of members of a racial minority or ethnic minority group. When an application for a permit related to a proposed or existing permitted facility (that is located within 3 miles of an environmental justice community), the office would make a recommendation to the TCEQ as to whether the application should be approved. The bill provides factors that the office should consider when determining whether to recommend approval of the application, including: whether cumulative effects of pollution from the proposed permitted facility on the affected environmental justice community exceed the statewide average; existing or anticipated vulnerabilities in the affected environmental justice community; proximity of the proposed permitted facility to locations where children and elderly and medically vulnerable people commonly gather including residences, schools, places of worship, etc. (among other factors). The office is required to make a recommendation no later than 7 days after the period for public comment has closed. TCEQ staff are required to consider the recommendation of the office in determining whether to issue the permit.


Bill History: 12-10-24 S Filed

 **SB 624** Kolkhorst, Lois(R) Relating to the criteria considered by groundwater conservation districts before granting or denying a permit of permit amendment.

Companions: [HB 1633](#) Gerdes, Stan (Identical)
12-16-24 H Filed

General Remarks: House Bill 1633/Senate Bill 624 requires that before granting or denying a permit or permit amendment a groundwater conservation district must consider whether the proposed use of water unreasonably affects wells that are registered with the district and exempt from the requirement to obtain a permit.

Bill History: 12-16-24 S Filed

 **SB 718** Kolkhorst, Lois(R) Relating to creation of the groundwater science, research, and innovation fund to be administered by the Texas Water Development Board.

Companions: [HB 1400](#) Harris, Cody (Identical)
11-19-24 H Filed

General Remarks: House Bill 1400/Senate Bill 718 establishes the Groundwater Science, Research and Innovation Fund in the state treasury to be administered by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). The purpose of the fund is to provide grants to groundwater conservation districts (GCDs) for programs and projects that will further groundwater science, research and innovation. The bill provides criteria to the TWDB in application evaluation. HB 1400 requires that at least 35% of the money in the fund be used to fund programs or projects in GCDs with population of less than 100,000 and annual revenues of not more than \$250,000. The bill allows the TWDB to require matching funds that may include GCD direct expenditures or in-kind services up to 25% of the amount of the grant. This is an EDF bill and they are asking for a \$15 million appropriation.

Bill History: 01-06-25 S Filed

A SB 727

Johnson, Nathan(D)

Relating to the creation of a small non-road engine purchase incentive program under the Texas emissions reduction plan.

Companions:

SB 104 Johnson, Nathan (Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks: SB 727 (SB 104 88R) creates a small non-road engine purchase incentive program under the Texas emissions reduction plan to incentivize the use of electronically or alternatively powered 2 and 4 stroke engines.

Bill History: 01-07-25 S Filed

A SB 766

Zaffirini, Judith(D)

Relating to the correction of references to the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission.

General Remarks: Senate Bill 766 is a statute clean up bill that removes references to the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission and replaces them with TCEQ.

Bill History: 01-13-25 S Filed

A SB 768

Menendez, Jose(D)

Relating to a study regarding the effects of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals on public health.

Companions: HB 1730 Morales Shaw, Penny (Identical)
1- 3-25 H Filed

General Remarks: Senate Bill 768/House Bill 1730 requires UofH, RRC, and TCEQ to conduct a study on the effects of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals on public health. The report is due to the legislature not later than December 1, 2026.

Bill History: 01-13-25 S Filed

A SB 773 Eckhardt, Sarah(D)

Relating to the exemption from ad valorem taxation of real property owned by certain charitable organizations.

Companions: SB 1774 Eckhardt, Sarah (Refiled from 88R Session)

General Remarks: Senate Bill 773 exempts from ad valorem taxation all real property owned by certain charitable organizations.

Bill History: 01-13-25 S Filed

A SB 782 King, Phil(R)

Relating to a severance tax exemption for oil and gas produced from certain restimulation wells.

General Remarks: Senate Bill 782 in the re-stim bill. The bill is similar to SB 1407, 88R, however, the severance tax exemption is just for the first 3 years instead of 5 years and is capped at \$750,000 a well.

The bill would allow a well that has five years of reported production to apply for a severance tax reduction for a re-stimulation project for up to three years with the tax reduction capped at \$750,000 to offset costs related to a re-stimulation operation.

The bill excludes high-cost gas operations and provides for a \$10,000 civil penalty plus the difference between the amount of taxes paid or attempted to be paid and the amount of taxes due plus AG penalty for an operator that applies for an exemption but knows the well is not a qualifying well.

Senate Bill 782 is a preemptive measure to keep low-producing wells from going into an inactive status. Wells going inactive for more than two years have over an 80 percent chance of being plugged.

Bill History: 01-14-25 S Filed

Total Bills: 48

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