

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 44th Legislature (1994)

HOUSE BILL NO. 2186

By: Williams

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to oil and gas; creating the Task Force on Oil and Gas Well Plugging; establishing duties; requiring a report by a certain date; providing for membership; requiring appointment of members by a certain date; requiring first meeting by a certain date; providing for election of chairperson and vice-chairperson; providing for travel reimbursement; providing for staff assistance; providing for codification; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 318.10 of Title 52, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created, to continue until January 1, 1995, the Task Force on Oil and Gas Well Plugging. The Task Force shall study and review the current well plugging indemnity program and regulatory system in the State of Oklahoma as well as programs and systems in other oil and gas producing states, and make recommendations for revising the current indemnity program and

regulatory system. Specifically, the Task Force shall investigate and make recommendations concerning:

1. The feasibility of establishing a well plugging indemnity fund;

2. Clarifying ownership or title problems associated with abandoned or orphan wells; and

3. The feasibility of establishing an environmental emergency response fund.

B. The Task Force shall submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate no later than December 1, 1994.

C. The Task Force shall be composed of not more than twenty (20) members, which shall include a representative of the Governor, representatives of the Corporation Commission, members of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, and members of the Oklahoma State Senate, with the remaining members to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The appointed members shall represent various entities which have an interest in the well plugging indemnity program and regulatory system in Oklahoma.

D. Members of the Task Force shall be appointed within thirty (30) days after the effective date of this act.

E. The first meeting of the Task Force, set at the call of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall be held no later than August 1, 1994, at which time the members of the Task Force shall select a chairperson and a vice-chairperson.

F. Members of the Task Force shall receive no compensation for serving on the Task Force, but shall receive travel reimbursement as follows:

1. Legislative members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of

their duties in accordance with Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes; and

2. Nonlegislative members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed by their respective appointing authority for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

G. Staff assistance shall be provided by the Corporation Commission, the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

44-2-8291

KSM