

ENROLLED HOUSE  
BILL NO. 1457

By: Pope (Clay), Braddock,  
Ervin, Turner, Walker and  
Covey of the House

and

Milacek of the Senate

An Act relating to revenue and taxation; creating the Task Force on Valuation of Gas Gathering System Assets; providing for membership; providing for appointment of cochairs; imposing duties on Task Force; providing Task Force exempt from certain requirements; authorizing meetings; providing for travel reimbursement; providing for staff assistance; providing for valuation of certain assets; prohibiting changes in certain determinations; 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 2851.2 of Title 68, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created the "Task Force on Valuation of Gas Gathering System Assets".

B. The Task Force shall consist of six (6) members to be appointed as follows:

1. Three members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives from the membership of the House; and

2. Three members shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate from the membership of the Senate.

C. The Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives shall designate one of the Speaker's appointees as a cochair. The President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate shall designate one of the Pro Tempore's appointees as a cochair. The Task Force shall conduct an organizational meeting not later than August 31, 2002.

D. The Task Force shall conduct a study of the valuation of gas gathering system assets for purposes of ad valorem taxation. The study shall include:

1. The valuation methods currently used for gas gathering systems;

2. The methods used to determine whether gas gathering system assets are subject to the jurisdiction of a county assessor or the State Board of Equalization for purposes of valuation and assessment;

3. Existing opinions of the courts of the State of Oklahoma governing the valuation and assessment of gas gathering system assets or such other materials, cases, opinions or determinations that may be relevant to the study; and

4. Other matters as may be pertinent to the study and recommendations of the Task Force as the Task Force deems relevant.

E. The Task Force shall not be subject to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act or to the Oklahoma Open Records Act.

F. The Task Force shall be authorized to meet at such times as may be required in order to fulfill the duties imposed upon the Task Force by law. 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.

G. Staff assistance for the Task Force shall be provided by the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Oklahoma State Senate.

H. The Task Force shall complete its study not later than December 31, 2003.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 2851.3 of Title 68, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Effective January 1, 2003, there shall be no changes in the valuation methodology of gas gathering system assets.

B. Effective January 1, 2003, there shall be no changes in the determination of whether gas gathering system assets are locally assessed or centrally assessed and the treatment of such assets for the January 1, 2002, assessment year shall be maintained and preserved.

SECTION 3. 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.

Passed the House of Representatives the 8th day of May, 2002.

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Presiding Officer of the House of  
Representatives

Passed the Senate the 13th day of May, 2002.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate