

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 52nd Legislature (2010)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR ENGROSSED
5 SENATE BILL NO. 1840

By: Sykes, Gumm and Branam of
the Senate

and

Johnson of the House

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9 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

10 An Act relating to retail natural gas service;
11 creating task force to study retail natural gas
12 service; stating duties of the task force; stating
13 membership; stating ex officio members; requiring
14 appointments to be made within certain time period;
15 providing for meeting, quorum and vacancies;
16 providing a termination date; providing for travel
17 reimbursement; providing for staffing; providing for
18 noncodification; and declaring an emergency.

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

20 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be
21 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

22 A. There is hereby created until January 31, 2011, a task force
23 for the purpose of studying the availability of retail natural gas
24 service in Oklahoma. The task force shall explore options to
overcome obstacles currently impeding the expansion of retail

1 natural gas supply services to new homes and commercial building
2 development areas which are being forced to use less efficient
3 energy sources rather than cleaner, more economical and locally
4 produced natural gas. The task force shall solicit participation
5 from all retail natural gas providers in the area of the state south
6 of Interstate 40 and determine what remedies may be available to
7 provide much-needed natural gas service to the many citizens and
8 business operators in this area of the state.

9 B. The task force shall be composed of twelve (12) members as
10 follows:

11 1. One member of the Senate whose Senate district includes any
12 portion of the state south of Interstate 40 and who also serves on
13 the Senate Energy and Environment Committee appointed by the
14 President Pro Tempore of the Senate, who shall serve as cochair of
15 the task force;

16 2. One member of the House of Representatives whose House
17 district includes any portion of the state south of Interstate 40
18 and who also serves on the House Energy and Utility Regulation
19 Committee appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives,
20 who shall serve as cochair of the task force;

21 3. Three members of the Senate whose Senate districts include
22 any portion of the state south of Interstate 40 appointed by the
23 President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

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1 4. Three members of the House of Representatives whose House
2 districts include any portion of the state south of Interstate 40
3 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

4 5. A member of the Corporation Commission or a designee as
5 selected by the Commission;

6 6. One person who represents a natural gas company that
7 operates in the portion of the state south of Interstate 40
8 appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

9 7. One person who represents a natural gas services company
10 that operates in the portion of the state south of Interstate 40
11 appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; and

12 8. One person who represents a natural gas utility corporation
13 that operates in the portion of the state south of Interstate 40
14 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

15 C. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of
16 the House of Representatives shall serve as ex officio members of
17 the task force.

18 D. Appointments to this task force shall be made within thirty
19 (30) days following enactment of this act.

20 E. The task force is authorized to meet at the call of the
21 cochairs, and its activities will terminate no later than January
22 31, 2011. Members shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing
23 authority. A majority of members of the task force shall constitute
24 a quorum to transact business, but no vacancy shall impair the right

1 of the remaining members to exercise all of the powers of the task
2 force. A vacancy on the task force shall be filled by the original
3 appointing authority.

4 F. 1. Legislative members of the task force shall be
5 reimbursed for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the
6 performance of their duties in accordance with Section 456 of Title
7 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

8 2. The Corporation Commissioner or designee and all other
9 members of the Task Force may be reimbursed by the Corporation
10 Commission for necessary travel expenses pursuant to the State
11 Travel Reimbursement Act.

12 G. Staffing for the task force shall be provided by the Senate
13 and House of Representatives staff.

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

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