

ENROLLED SENATE
BILL NO. 1840

By: Sykes, Gumm and Branan of
the Senate

and

Johnson and Sherrer of the
House

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

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

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

A. There is hereby created until January 31, 2011, a task force for the purpose of studying the availability of retail natural gas service in Oklahoma. The task force shall explore options to overcome obstacles currently impeding the expansion of retail natural gas supply services to new homes and commercial building development areas which are being forced to use less efficient energy sources rather than cleaner, more economical and locally produced natural gas. The task force shall solicit participation from all retail natural gas providers in the area of the state south of Interstate 40 and determine what remedies may be available to

provide much-needed natural gas service to the many citizens and business operators in this area of the state.

B. The task force shall be composed of eleven (11) members as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

force. A vacancy on the task force shall be filled by the original appointing authority.

F. 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.

2. The Corporation Commissioner or designee and all other members of the task force may be reimbursed by the Corporation Commission for necessary travel expenses pursuant to the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

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

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.

Passed the Senate the 24th day of May, 2010.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 25th day of May, 2010.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives