

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 53rd Legislature (2011)

3 HOUSE BILL 1909

By: Jackson

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to oil and gas; stating legislative  
8 findings regarding advanced horizontal drilling and  
9 certain spacing laws; discussing certain constraints  
10 on certain goals of the Corporation Commission;  
11 stating necessity for modifying the oil and gas  
12 regulatory scheme; providing for noncodification; and  
13 providing an effective date.

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

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

17 The Legislature finds that advances in horizontal drilling  
18 techniques for wells drilled and completed in shale formations in  
19 Oklahoma have advanced beyond the historical statutory spacing  
20 scheme found in Section 87.1 and Sections 287.1 through 287.15 of  
21 Title 52 of the Oklahoma Statutes, in particular with laterals  
22 exceeding five thousand two hundred eighty (5,280) feet in length.

23 The Corporation Commission, as the agency charged with the  
24 protection of the correlative rights of those owning oil and gas  
interests in Oklahoma, the prevention of waste and promotion of full

1 development of these Oklahoma resources, is constrained in its  
2 ability to adequately accomplish the balancing of these goals by the  
3 limitations placed upon it by the existing statutory scheme. In  
4 order to prevent waste, better protect the correlative rights of the  
5 owners of oil and gas rights and harmonize the historical regulatory  
6 scheme in Oklahoma with the expanding technology of drilling and  
7 completing horizontal wells in shale reservoirs in Oklahoma, the  
8 Legislature finds it necessary to modify the oil and gas regulatory  
9 scheme in Oklahoma as set forth in this act.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2011.

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