

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR

5 SENATE BILL NO. 132

By: Burns of the Senate

and

Boles of the House

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9 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

10 An Act relating to the Corporation Commission;
11 providing legislative intent; amending 17 O.S. 2021,
12 Section 53, which relates to plugging wells;
13 establishing maximum time period for plugging
14 exemption; defining term; directing rule
15 promulgation; providing for noncodification; and
16 providing an effective date.

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

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

20 It is recognized by this state that abandoned and orphaned wells
21 threaten the environmental quality, health, and safety of the people
22 and lands in this state. To mitigate such risks, the Legislature
23 finds it imperative to take steps to address the more than twenty
24 thousand documented orphaned oil and gas wells and the suspected two

1 hundred thousand undocumented orphaned oil and gas wells in this
2 state.

3 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 17 O.S. 2021, Section 53, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 Section 53. A. The Corporation Commission is hereby authorized
6 to promulgate rules for the plugging of all abandoned oil and gas
7 wells. Abandoned wells, including shut-in gas wells, shall be
8 plugged under the direction and supervision of Commission employees
9 as may be prescribed by the Commission. Provided, however, the
10 Commission shall not order any oil ~~or gas~~ well to be plugged or
11 closed if the well is located on an otherwise producing oil ~~or gas~~
12 lease as defined by the Commission, unless such well poses an
13 imminent threat to the public health and safety which shall be
14 determined by the Commission after conducting a public hearing on
15 the matter.

16 B. 1. A shut-in gas well exempt from plugging by the
17 Commission pursuant to this title or to Commission rule shall only
18 be exempt for a maximum of eight (8) years from the effective date
19 of this act, or from the date that the well is shut-in, whichever is
20 later.

21 2. As used in this section, "shut-in gas well" means a well
22 that is not currently producing or is incapable of producing due to
23 any reason, including, but not limited to, depletion, mechanical
24 issues, or being shut-in by the operator.

1 C. The Commission shall promulgate rules to effectuate the
2 provisions of this section and establish any necessary enforcement
3 measures.

4 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

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