

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

H.B. 1931  
By: Capelo (Williams)  
Natural Resources  
5/7/2003  
Engrossed

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

The Texas Natural Resources Code requires at least 30 days notice and an opportunity for public comment before a pipeline project can be built, if that pipeline crosses more than three counties, and prohibits the Texas Railroad Commission from issuing the permit until said comments have been considered. H.B. 1931 repeals the existing provisions requiring at least 30 days notice and an opportunity for public comment before a pipeline project can be built and amends certain subsections in the Texas Natural Resources Code.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 117.012, Natural Resources Code, by amending Subsections (h), (i), and (k) and adding Subsections (l) and (m), as follows:

(h) Authorizes an operator or the operator's representative to conduct required community liaison activities as provided by Subsection (i) only if the operator or the operator's representative has made an effort, by one of three certain methods, to conduct a community liaison meeting in person with the officials.

(i) Makes conforming changes.

(k) Requires the Texas Railroad Commission (TRC) by rule to require the owner or operator of each intrastate hazardous liquid or carbon dioxide pipeline facility any part of which is located within 1,000 feet of a public school building containing classrooms, or within 1,000 feet of another public school facility where students congregate, to perform certain acts.

(l) Requires a pipeline operator or the operator's representative to appear at a regularly scheduled meeting of the school board to explain the items listed in Subsection (k) if requested by the school board.

(m) Prohibits TRC from requiring the release of parts of an emergency response plan that include security sensitive information including maps or data. Requires security sensitive information to be made available for review by but not provided to the school board.

SECTION 2. Repealer: Section 81.056 (Pipeline Construction and Operation Public Notification), Natural Resources Code.

SECTION 3. Provides that this Act applies to a permit application that is pending with TRC on the effective date of this Act or filed with TRC after that date.

SECTION 4. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2003.