

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

As Engrossed: H3/26/15
A Bill

SENATE BILL 554

By: Senator D. Sanders
By: Representative Neal

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAWS CONCERNING THE COLLECTION,
DEPOSIT, AND USE OF GAS ASSESSMENT FEES; TO DESIGNATE
CERTAIN GAS ASSESSMENT FEES AS GENERAL REVENUE; TO
DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAWS CONCERNING THE
COLLECTION, DEPOSIT, AND USE OF GAS
ASSESSMENT FEES; TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN GAS
ASSESSMENT FEES AS GENERAL REVENUE; AND
TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 15-71-107(b)(2)(B), concerning assessments on oil and gas production, is amended to read as follows:

(B) All moneys ~~se~~ collected under subdivision (b)(2)(A)(i) of this section shall be used ~~solely~~ as follows:

(i) The first four and one-half (4 ½) mills of each gas assessment levied each fiscal year until July 1, 2017, shall be deposited as general revenues; and

(ii) The remainder shall be used to pay the expenses and other costs in connection with the administration of this law.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 15-71-109(a), concerning the Oil and Gas Commission Fund, is amended to read as follows:



(a) All moneys collected under ~~the provisions of~~ this act, except the first four and one-half (4 ½) mills on gas assessments levied each fiscal year until July 1, 2017, under § 15-71-107(b)(2)(A)(i), when paid to the Treasurer of State, shall be deposited to the credit of the Oil and Gas Commission Fund.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 19-6-201, concerning the enumeration of general revenues, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(71) The first four and one-half (4 ½) mills on gas assessments levied each fiscal year until July 1, 2017, under § 15-71-107(b)(2)(A)(i).

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 19-6-301(62), concerning the enumeration of special revenues, is amended to read as follows:

(62) Oil and Gas Commission fees, including oil assessments, and gas assessments in excess of four and one-half (4 ½) mills each fiscal year until July 1, 2017, under § 15-71-107(b)(2)(A)(i), drilling permits, permits for plugging wells, and permits for each salt water well, all as enacted by Acts 1939, No. 105, and all laws amendatory thereto, §§ 15-71-101 – 15-71-112, 15-72-101 – 15-72-110, 15-72-205, 15-72-212, 15-72-216, 15-72-301 – 15-72-324, and 15-72-401 – 15-72-407, and the portion of taxes levied on salt water used in bromine production, as enacted by Acts 1947, No. 136, and all laws amendatory thereto, § 26-58-111(9);

SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the activities funded by general revenue are necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety; that increased general revenue funding is essential to the performance of these activities; and that without that increased funding, these activities may be compromised. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on July 1, 2015.

/s/D. Sanders