

1 SB260  
2 205580-1  
3 By Senator Reed  
4 RFD: Governmental Affairs  
5 First Read: 03-MAR-20

SYNOPSIS:           The Alabama Oil and Gas Study Committee was created by resolution to make a continuing study of the oil and gas industry in our state and to report findings to the Legislature and the Governor on an annual basis.

                  This bill would reconstitute the committee to make it a permanent study commission in the Code of Alabama 1975.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

                  Relating to the Oil and Gas Study Committee; to make the committee a permanent study commission; to provide for membership of the commission; to provide for duties of the commission; and to provide reporting requirements.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

                  Section 1. (a) There is created the Alabama Oil and Gas Study Commission to continuously evaluate the oil and gas

1 industry in this state, the laws pertaining to oil and gas,  
2 exploration and production of oil and gas in this state,  
3 regulations affecting the oil and gas industry, the fiscal  
4 impact of the oil and gas industry, and any other facet of oil  
5 and gas exploration and production in this state.

6 (b) (1) The permanent study commission shall consist  
7 of the following members:

8 a. Three members of the Senate appointed by the  
9 presiding officer of the Senate.

10 b. One member appointed by the presiding officer of  
11 the Senate from a list of three nominees from among the  
12 membership of the Southeast Oil and Gas Association.

13 c. One member appointed by the presiding officer of  
14 the Senate who is a resident of an oil and gas producing  
15 county and knowledgeable in the oil and gas field.

16 d. Three members of the House of Representatives,  
17 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

18 e. One member appointed by the Speaker of the House  
19 of Representatives from a list of three nominees from among  
20 the membership of the Alabama Petroleum Council.

21 f. One member appointed by the Speaker of the House  
22 of Representatives who is a resident of an oil and gas  
23 producing county and knowledgeable in the oil and gas field.

24 (2) The appointing authorities shall coordinate  
25 their appointments to assure the membership is inclusive and  
26 reflects the racial, gender, geographic, urban, rural, and  
27 economic diversity of the state.

1                   (3) The State Oil and Gas Supervisor and  
2 Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Natural  
3 Resources shall serve as ex officio, nonvoting members of the  
4 commission.

5                   (c) The study commission shall elect a chair and  
6 vice chair from among the appointed membership of the  
7 commission. Any vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as  
8 the original appointment.

9                   (d) The commission shall meet annually and as called  
10 by the chair or upon a majority vote of the commission.

11                   (e) The House of Representatives, the Senate, and  
12 the Legislative Services Agency shall provide assistance to  
13 the commission as necessary.

14                   (f) Members of the commission shall serve without  
15 compensation but may be reimbursed for expenses as follows:

16                   (1) The legislative members of the study commission  
17 shall be entitled to their legislative compensation, per diem,  
18 and travel expenses for each day they attend a meeting of the  
19 study commission, in accordance with Amendment 871 of the  
20 Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

21                   (2) Other members of the commission may be  
22 reimbursed for necessary expenses in attending meetings of the  
23 commission according to policies and procedures of their  
24 respective appointing authority.

25                   (g) (1) The commission may call witnesses to testify  
26 before the commission under oath, and the members and staff of  
27 the state Oil and Gas Board or other state agencies and state

1 officers and employees, upon request of the commission, shall  
2 furnish any necessary information, data, and documents the  
3 commission may need or request to carry out the functions and  
4 duties of the commission as provided in this section.

5 (2) The chair of the commission may issue subpoenas  
6 and subpoenas duces tecum pursuant to the Alabama Rules of  
7 Civil Procedure.

8 (h) The commission shall make an annual report,  
9 findings, and any legislative recommendations to the Governor  
10 and the Legislature by the 10th legislative day of the regular  
11 session.

12 Section 2. This act shall become effective  
13 immediately following its passage and approval by the  
14 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.