

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE BILL 132

By: Burns

4  
5 AS INTRODUCED

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

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

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

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

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

25 Section 53. A. The Corporation Commission is hereby authorized  
26 to promulgate rules for the plugging of all abandoned oil and gas

1 wells. Abandoned wells, including shut-in gas wells, shall be  
2 plugged under the direction and supervision of Commission employees  
3 as may be prescribed by the Commission. ~~Provided, however, the~~  
4 ~~Commission shall not order any oil or gas well to be plugged or~~  
5 ~~closed if the well is located on an otherwise producing oil or gas~~  
6 ~~lease as defined by the Commission, unless such well poses an~~  
7 ~~imminent threat to the public health and safety which shall be~~  
8 ~~determined by the Commission after conducting a public hearing on~~  
9 ~~the matter.~~

10 B. 1. A shut-in gas well exempt from plugging by the  
11 Commission pursuant to this title or to Commission rule shall only  
12 be exempt for a maximum of five (5) years from the date that such  
13 well is shut in.

14 2. As used in this section, "shut-in gas well" means a well  
15 which is capable of production by opening valves or activating  
16 existing equipment.

17 C. The Commission shall promulgate rules to effectuate the  
18 provisions of this section and establish any necessary enforcement  
19 measures.

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

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22 60-1-201 RD 12/27/2024 1:42:09 PM  
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