



RYAN GUILLEN
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TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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GUILLEN URGES RAILROAD COMMISSION NAME CHANGE

AUSTIN – In response to the House Committee on Energy Resources, Representative Ryan Guillen (District 31- D) urges the committee to consider implementing a name change to the Texas Railroad Commission.

“It is my hope the committee will decide [that] changing the Texas Railroad Commission’s name will, finally, reflect the relevance the agency holds in present day,” Guillen stated.

The Texas House Committee on Energy Resources met Monday to conduct legislative oversight regarding the Railroad Commission of Texas, pursuant to their assigned interim charges. Included in the scope of their oversight is an examination of the agency’s transparency and efficiency.

Past efforts/issues involved/ why people are calling for it/why opponents

In 2015, Guillen, in efforts with fellow representatives, proposed HB 224 that will change the Texas Railroad Commission to the Texas Energy Commission. The Railroad Commission no longer deals with railroads, but rather issues regarding oil, natural gas, and pipeline safety.

The change will require an amendment to the Texas Constitution, as the document mentions the agency by name, meaning two-thirds of lawmakers in both House and Senate must approve before putting the question to Texas voters.

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