

**SUBJECT:** Requiring a study of the East Texas oil field

**COMMITTEE:** Energy Resources — committee substitute recommended

**VOTE:** 8 ayes — R. Lewis, Merritt, Carter, Christian, Crabb, Driver, Hawley, Kitchen  
0 nays  
1 absent — Williams

**WITNESSES:** For — None  
Against — None  
On — Scott Tinker, University of Texas at Austin

**DIGEST:** CSHB 2436 would require the Bureau of Economic Geology of the University of Texas at Austin to conduct a study of the East Texas oil field and recommend measures that should be taken to maximize the ultimate recovery of oil and gas from the field.

The bureau's advisory committee would have to include a member of the Texas Railroad Commission, a school district board member, an oil industry representative, a state senator appointed by the lieutenant governor, and a state representative appointed by the House speaker. Members would not be paid but would be reimbursed for expenses. The committee's expenses would be paid from Railroad Commission appropriations.

The bureau would have to make an interim report on the study on or before January 1, 2003, and a final report on or before September 1, 2003, when authorization for the advisory committee would expire.

This bill would take effect September 1, 2001. The advisory committee would have to be appointed as soon as practicable after that date. If the 77th Legislature failed to adopt funding provided in Article 11 of the general appropriations bill, CSHB 2436's provisions would become null and void.

NOTES: The committee substitute added the requirements that the bureau make an interim report in addition to the final report and the bill be contingent on adoption of funding in the general appropriations bill.