

State of Arkansas

77th General Assembly

Third Extraordinary Session, 1989

H.R.

1004

By: Representative Beatty

HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE RULES AND
REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE OPERATION AND LOCATION OF
HYDROGEN-SULFIDE GAS WELLS AND PIPELINES IN THIS STATE.

WHEREAS, areas of this state have high concentrations of wells producing hydrogen-sulfide gas; and

WHEREAS, a concentration of 200-300 parts per million of hydrogen-sulfide gas is lethal to human beings; and

WHEREAS, some wells produce as high a concentrate as 30,000 parts per million of hydrogen-sulfide gas; and

WHEREAS, current requirements permit the burning of hydrogen-sulfide gas through open burning or flares at the well site; and

WHEREAS, there are no restrictions concerning shutoff valves for well sites when a flare goes out; and

WHEREAS, there are no regulations prohibiting the location of pipelines carrying this deadly gas near residences; and

WHEREAS, accidents in the past have resulted in the loss of cattle and adversely affected the environment of the area; and

WHEREAS, a review of the federal and state guidelines and requirements concerning operation and location of hydrogen-sulfide wells and pipelines would assist the Arkansas General Assembly in determining if more restrictions

are necessary to adequately protect the health, welfare and safety of citizens residing in these areas,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE THIRD EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE SEVENTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

THAT as soon as possible after the adjournment of this session of the General Assembly the Joint Interim Committee on Agriculture & Economic Development commence a study of the rules and regulations concerning operation and location of hydrogen-sulfide wells and pipelines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Arkansas Oil and Gas Commission, the Department of Pollution Control and Ecology, the Department of Health and any other state agency shall provide assistance to the committee at their request in conducting this study.