

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Extraordinary Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

3 HOUSE BILL 1011

By: Inman

4  
5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to revenue and taxation; ordering a  
8 legislative referendum pursuant to the Oklahoma  
9 Constitution; amending 68 O.S. 2011, Section 1001, as  
10 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 355, O.S.L. 2017  
11 (68 O.S. Supp. 2017, Section 1001), which relates to  
12 gross production tax; limiting period where certain  
13 reduced rate is applicable; providing ballot title;  
14 and directing filing.

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

16 SECTION 1. Pursuant to Section 3 of Article V of the Oklahoma  
17 Constitution, there is hereby ordered the following legislative  
18 referendum which shall be filed with the Secretary of State and  
19 addressed to the Governor of the state, who shall submit the same to  
20 the people for their approval or rejection at the next General  
21 Election.

22 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 2011, Section 1001, as  
23 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 355, O.S.L. 2017 (68 O.S. Supp.  
24 2017, Section 1001), is amended to read as follows:

1 Section 1001. A. There is hereby levied upon the production of  
2 asphalt, ores bearing lead, zinc, jack and copper a tax equal to  
3 three-fourths of one percent ( $3/4$  of 1%) on the gross value thereof.

4 B. 1. Effective July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2015, except as  
5 otherwise exempted pursuant to subsections D, E, F, G, H, I and J of  
6 this section, there shall be levied upon the production of oil a tax  
7 equal to seven percent (7%) of the gross value of the production of  
8 oil based on a per barrel measurement of forty-two (42) U.S. gallons  
9 of two hundred thirty-one (231) cubic inches per gallon, computed at  
10 a temperature of sixty (60) degrees Fahrenheit.

11 2. Effective July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2015, except as  
12 otherwise exempted pursuant to subsections D, E, F, G, H, I and J of  
13 this section, there shall be levied a tax equal to seven percent  
14 (7%) of the gross value of the production of gas.

15 3. Effective July 1, 2015, except as otherwise provided in this  
16 section, there shall be levied a tax on the gross value of the  
17 production of oil and gas as follows:

18 a. upon the production of oil a tax equal to seven  
19 percent (7%) of the gross value of the production of  
20 oil based on a per barrel measurement of forty-two  
21 (42) U.S. gallons of two hundred thirty-one (231)  
22 cubic inches per gallon, computed at a temperature of  
23 sixty (60) degrees Fahrenheit,  
24

1           b.    upon the production of gas a tax equal to seven  
2                    percent (7%) of the gross value of the production of  
3                    gas, and

4           c.    notwithstanding the levies in subparagraphs a and b of  
5                    this paragraph, the production of oil, gas, or oil and  
6                    gas from wells spudded on or after July 1, 2015, and  
7                    prior to the effective date of this act, shall be  
8                    taxed at a rate of two percent (2%) commencing with  
9                    the month of first production for a period of thirty-  
10                   six (36) months. Thereafter, the production shall be  
11                   taxed as provided in subparagraphs a and b of this  
12                   paragraph.

13           C.    The taxes hereby levied shall also attach to, and are levied  
14                   on, what is known as the royalty interest, and the amount of such  
15                   tax shall be a lien on such interest.

16           D.    1.   Except as otherwise provided in this section, for  
17                   secondary recovery projects approved or having an initial project  
18                   beginning date on or after July 1, 2000, and before July 1, 2017,  
19                   any incremental production attributable to the working interest  
20                   owners which results from such secondary recovery projects shall be  
21                   exempt from the gross production tax levied pursuant to this section  
22                   for a period not to exceed five (5) years from the initial project  
23                   beginning date or for a period ending upon the termination of the  
24                   secondary recovery process, whichever occurs first; provided

1 however, that the exemption provided by this paragraph shall not  
2 apply to production occurring on or after July 1, 2017.

3       2. Except as otherwise provided in this section, for tertiary  
4 recovery projects approved and having a project beginning date on or  
5 after July 1, 1993, and before July 1, 2017, any incremental  
6 production attributable to the working interest owners which results  
7 from such tertiary recovery projects shall be exempt from the gross  
8 production tax levied pursuant to this section from the project  
9 beginning date until project payback is achieved, but not to exceed  
10 a period of ten (10) years; provided however, that the exemption  
11 provided by this paragraph shall not apply to production occurring  
12 on or after July 1, 2017. Project payback pursuant to this  
13 paragraph shall be determined by appropriate payback indicators  
14 which will provide for the recovery of capital expenses and  
15 operating expenses, excluding administrative expenses, in  
16 determining project payback. The capital expenses of pipelines  
17 constructed to transport carbon dioxide to a tertiary recovery  
18 project shall not be included in determining project payback  
19 pursuant to this paragraph.

20       3. The provisions of this subsection shall also not apply to  
21 any enhanced recovery project using fresh water as the primary  
22 injectant, except when using steam.

23       4. For purposes of this subsection:  
24

1 a. "incremental production" means the amount of crude oil  
2 or other liquid hydrocarbons which is produced during  
3 an enhanced recovery project and which is in excess of  
4 the base production amount of crude oil or other  
5 liquid hydrocarbons. The base production amount shall  
6 be the average monthly amount of production for the  
7 twelve-month period immediately prior to the project  
8 beginning date minus the monthly rate of production  
9 decline for the project for each month beginning one  
10 hundred eighty (180) days prior to the project  
11 beginning date. The monthly rate of production  
12 decline shall be equal to the average extrapolated  
13 monthly decline rate for the twelve-month period  
14 immediately prior to the project beginning date as  
15 determined by the Corporation Commission based on the  
16 production history of the field, its current status,  
17 and sound reservoir engineering principles, and

18 b. "project beginning date" means the date on which the  
19 injection of liquids, gases, or other matter begins on  
20 an enhanced recovery project.

21 5. The Corporation Commission shall promulgate rules for the  
22 qualification for this exemption which shall include, but not be  
23 limited to, procedures for determining incremental production as  
24 defined in subparagraph a of paragraph 4 of this subsection, and the

1 establishment of appropriate payback indicators as approved by the  
2 Tax Commission for the determination of project payback for each of  
3 the exemptions authorized by this subsection.

4 6. For new secondary recovery projects and tertiary recovery  
5 projects approved by the Corporation Commission on or after July 1,  
6 1993, and before July 1, 2017, such approval shall constitute  
7 qualification for an exemption.

8 7. Any person seeking an exemption shall file an application  
9 for such exemption with the Tax Commission which, upon determination  
10 of qualification by the Corporation Commission, shall approve the  
11 application for such exemption.

12 8. The Tax Commission may require any person requesting such  
13 exemption to furnish information or records concerning the exemption  
14 as is deemed necessary by the Tax Commission.

15 9. Upon the expiration of the exemption granted pursuant to  
16 this subsection, the Tax Commission shall collect the gross  
17 production tax levied pursuant to this section.

18 E. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the  
19 production of oil, gas or oil and gas from a horizontally drilled  
20 well producing prior to July 1, 2011, which production commenced  
21 after July 1, 2002, shall be exempt from the gross production tax  
22 levied pursuant to subsection B of this section from the project  
23 beginning date until project payback is achieved but not to exceed a  
24 period of forty-eight (48) months commencing with the month of

1 initial production from the horizontally drilled well. For purposes  
2 of subsection D of this section and this subsection, project payback  
3 shall be determined as of the date of the completion of the well and  
4 shall not include any expenses beyond the completion date of the  
5 well, and subject to the approval of the Tax Commission.

6 2. Claims for refund for the production periods within the  
7 fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, and June 30, 2011, shall be filed  
8 and received by the Tax Commission no later than December 31, 2011.

9 3. For production commenced on or after July 1, 2011, and prior  
10 to July 1, 2015, the tax levied pursuant to the provisions of this  
11 section on the production of oil, gas or oil and gas from a  
12 horizontally drilled well shall be reduced to a rate of one percent  
13 (1%) for a period of forty-eight (48) months from the month of  
14 initial production; provided however, such production occurring on  
15 or after the effective date of this act for the remainder of such  
16 forty-eight-month period shall be subject to a reduced rate of four  
17 percent (4%). The taxes collected from the production of oil shall  
18 be apportioned pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 7 of  
19 subsection B of Section 1004 of this title. The taxes collected  
20 from the production of gas shall be apportioned pursuant to the  
21 provisions of paragraph 3 of subsection B of Section 1004 of this  
22 title.

23 4. The production of oil, gas or oil and gas on or after July  
24 1, 2011, and prior to July 1, 2015, from these qualifying wells

1 shall be taxed at a rate of one percent (1%) until the expiration of  
2 forty-eight (48) months commencing with the month of initial  
3 production.

4 5. As used in this subsection, "horizontally drilled well"  
5 shall mean an oil, gas or oil and gas well drilled or recompleted in  
6 a manner which encounters and subsequently produces from a  
7 geological formation at an angle in excess of seventy (70) degrees  
8 from vertical and which laterally penetrates a minimum of one  
9 hundred fifty (150) feet into the pay zone of the formation.

10 F. 1. Except as otherwise provided by this section, the  
11 severance or production of oil, gas or oil and gas from an inactive  
12 well shall be exempt from the gross production tax levied pursuant  
13 to subsection B of this section for a period of twenty-eight (28)  
14 months from the date upon which production is reestablished;  
15 provided however, that the exemption provided by this paragraph  
16 shall not apply to production occurring on or after July 1, 2017.  
17 This exemption shall take effect July 1, 1994, and shall apply to  
18 wells for which work to reestablish or enhance production began on  
19 or after July 1, 1994, and for which production is reestablished  
20 prior to July 1, 2017. For all such production, a refund against  
21 gross production taxes shall be issued as provided in subsection L  
22 of this section.

23 2. As used in this subsection, for wells for which production  
24 is reestablished prior to July 1, 1997, "inactive well" means any



1 well that has not produced oil, gas or oil and gas for a period of  
2 not less than two (2) years as evidenced by the appropriate forms on  
3 file with the Corporation Commission reflecting the well's status.  
4 As used in this subsection, for wells for which production is  
5 reestablished on or after July 1, 1997, and prior to July 1, 2017,  
6 "inactive well" means any well that has not produced oil, gas or oil  
7 and gas for a period of not less than one (1) year as evidenced by  
8 the appropriate forms on file with the Corporation Commission  
9 reflecting the well's status. Wells which experience mechanical  
10 failure or loss of mechanical integrity, as defined by the  
11 Corporation Commission, including but not limited to, casing leaks,  
12 collapse of casing or loss of equipment in a wellbore, or any  
13 similar event which causes cessation of production, shall also be  
14 considered inactive wells.

15 G. 1. Except as otherwise provided by this section, any  
16 incremental production which results from a production enhancement  
17 project shall be exempt from the gross production tax levied  
18 pursuant to subsection B of this section for a period of twenty-  
19 eight (28) months from the date of first sale after project  
20 completion of the production enhancement project; provided however,  
21 that the exemption provided by this paragraph shall not apply to  
22 production occurring on or after July 1, 2017. This exemption shall  
23 take effect July 1, 1994, and shall apply to production enhancement  
24 projects having a project beginning date on or after July 1, 1994,

1 and prior to July 1, 2017. For all such production, a refund  
2 against gross production taxes shall be issued as provided in  
3 subsection L of this section.

4 2. As used in this subsection:

- 5 a. for production enhancement projects having a project  
6 beginning date on or after July 1, 1997, and prior to  
7 July 1, 2017, "production enhancement project" means  
8 any workover as defined in this paragraph,  
9 recompletion as defined in this paragraph, reentry of  
10 plugged and abandoned wellbores, or addition of a well  
11 or field compression,
- 12 b. "incremental production" means the amount of crude  
13 oil, natural gas or other hydrocarbons which are  
14 produced as a result of the production enhancement  
15 project in excess of the base production,
- 16 c. "base production" means the average monthly amount of  
17 production for the twelve-month period immediately  
18 prior to the commencement of the project or the  
19 average monthly amount of production for the twelve-  
20 month period immediately prior to the commencement of  
21 the project less the monthly rate of production  
22 decline for the project for each month beginning one  
23 hundred eighty (180) days prior to the commencement of  
24 the project. The monthly rate of production decline

1 shall be equal to the average extrapolated monthly  
2 decline rate for the twelve-month period immediately  
3 prior to the commencement of the project based on the  
4 production history of the well. If the well or wells  
5 covered in the application had production for less  
6 than the full twelve-month period prior to the filing  
7 of the application for the production enhancement  
8 project, the base production shall be the average  
9 monthly production for the months during that period  
10 that the well or wells produced,

11 d. for production enhancement projects having a project  
12 beginning date on or after July 1, 1997, and prior to  
13 July 1, 2017, "recompletion" means any downhole  
14 operation in an existing oil or gas well that is  
15 conducted to establish production of oil or gas from  
16 any geologic interval not currently completed or  
17 producing in such existing oil or gas well within the  
18 same or a different geologic formation, and

19 e. "workover" means any downhole operation in an existing  
20 oil or gas well that is designed to sustain, restore  
21 or increase the production rate or ultimate recovery  
22 in a geologic interval currently completed or  
23 producing in the existing oil or gas well. For  
24 production enhancement projects having a project

1 beginning date on or after July 1, 1997, and prior to  
2 July 1, 2017, "workover" includes, but is not limited  
3 to:

- 4 (1) acidizing,
  - 5 (2) reperforating,
  - 6 (3) fracture treating,
  - 7 (4) sand/paraffin/scale removal or other wellbore  
8 cleanouts,
  - 9 (5) casing repair,
  - 10 (6) squeeze cementing,
  - 11 (7) installation of compression on a well or group of  
12 wells or initial installation of artificial lifts  
13 on gas wells, including plunger lifts, rod pumps,  
14 submersible pumps and coiled tubing velocity  
15 strings,
  - 16 (8) downsizing existing tubing to reduce well  
17 loading,
  - 18 (9) downhole commingling,
  - 19 (10) bacteria treatments,
  - 20 (11) upgrading the size of pumping unit equipment,
  - 21 (12) setting bridge plugs to isolate water production  
22 zones, or
  - 23 (13) any combination thereof.
- 24

1 "Workover" shall not mean the routine maintenance,  
2 routine repair, or like for like replacement of  
3 downhole equipment such as rods, pumps, tubing,  
4 packers, or other mechanical devices.

5 H. 1. For purposes of this subsection, "depth" means the  
6 length of the maximum continuous string of drill pipe utilized  
7 between the drill bit face and the drilling rig's kelly bushing.

8 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection K of this  
9 section:

- 10 a. the production of oil, gas or oil and gas from wells  
11 spudded between July 1, 1997, and July 1, 2005, and  
12 drilled to a depth of twelve thousand five hundred  
13 (12,500) feet or greater and wells spudded between  
14 July 1, 2005, and July 1, 2015, and drilled to a depth  
15 between twelve thousand five hundred (12,500) feet and  
16 fourteen thousand nine hundred ninety-nine (14,999)  
17 feet shall be exempt from the gross production tax  
18 levied pursuant to subsection B of this section from  
19 the date of first sales for a period of twenty-eight  
20 (28) months; provided however, that the exemption  
21 provided by this subparagraph shall not apply to  
22 production occurring on or after July 1, 2017,
- 23 b. the production of oil, gas or oil and gas from wells  
24 spudded between July 1, 2002, and July 1, 2005, and

1 drilled to a depth of fifteen thousand (15,000) feet  
2 or greater and wells spudded between July 1, 2005, and  
3 July 1, 2011, and drilled to a depth between fifteen  
4 thousand (15,000) feet and seventeen thousand four  
5 hundred ninety-nine (17,499) feet shall be exempt from  
6 the gross production tax levied pursuant to subsection  
7 B of this section from the date of first sales for a  
8 period of forty-eight (48) months,

9 c. the production of oil, gas or oil and gas from wells  
10 spudded between July 1, 2002, and July 1, 2011, and  
11 drilled to a depth of seventeen thousand five hundred  
12 (17,500) feet or greater shall be exempt from the  
13 gross production tax levied pursuant to subsection B  
14 of this section from the date of first sales for a  
15 period of sixty (60) months,

16 d. the tax levied pursuant to the provisions of this  
17 section on the production of oil, gas or oil and gas  
18 from wells spudded between July 1, 2011, and July 1,  
19 2015, and drilled to a depth between fifteen thousand  
20 (15,000) feet and seventeen thousand four hundred  
21 ninety-nine (17,499) feet shall be reduced to a rate  
22 of four percent (4%) for a period of forty-eight (48)  
23 months from the date of first sales. The taxes  
24 collected from the production of oil shall be

1           apportioned pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 7  
2           of subsection B of Section 1004 of this title. The  
3           taxes collected from the production of gas shall be  
4           apportioned pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 3  
5           of subsection B of Section 1004 of this title,

6           e.    the tax levied pursuant to the provisions of this  
7           section on the production of oil, gas or oil and gas  
8           from wells spudded between July 1, 2011, and July 1,  
9           2015, and drilled to a depth of seventeen thousand  
10          five hundred (17,500) feet or greater shall be reduced  
11          to a rate of four percent (4%) for a period of sixty  
12          (60) months from the date of first sales. The taxes  
13          collected from the production of oil shall be  
14          apportioned pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 7  
15          of subsection B of Section 1004 of this title. The  
16          taxes collected from the production of gas shall be  
17          apportioned pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 3  
18          of subsection B of Section 1004 of this title, and

19          f.    the provisions of subparagraphs b and c of this  
20          paragraph shall only apply to the production of wells  
21          qualifying for the exemption provided under these  
22          subparagraphs prior to July 1, 2011. The production  
23          of oil, gas or oil and gas on or after July 1, 2011,  
24          and before July 1, 2015, from wells qualifying under

1            subparagraph b of this paragraph shall be taxed at a  
2            rate of four percent (4%) until the expiration of  
3            forty-eight (48) months from the date of first sales  
4            and the production of oil, gas or oil and gas on or  
5            after July 1, 2011, and before July 1, 2015, from  
6            wells qualifying under subparagraph c of this  
7            paragraph shall be taxed at a rate of four percent  
8            (4%) until the expiration of sixty (60) months from  
9            the date of first sales.

10           3. Except as otherwise provided for in this subsection, for all  
11 such wells spudded, a refund against gross production taxes shall be  
12 issued as provided in subsection L of this section.

13           I. Except as otherwise provided by this section, the production  
14 of oil, gas or oil and gas from wells spudded or reentered between  
15 July 1, 1995, and July 1, 2015, which qualify as a new discovery  
16 pursuant to this subsection shall be exempt from the gross  
17 production tax levied pursuant to subsection B of this section from  
18 the date of first sales for a period of twenty-eight (28) months;  
19 provided however, that the exemption provided by this subsection  
20 shall not apply to production occurring on or after July 1, 2017.  
21 For all such wells spudded or reentered, a refund against gross  
22 production taxes shall be issued as provided in subsection L of this  
23 section. As used in this subsection, "new discovery" means  
24 production of oil, gas or oil and gas from:



1        1. For wells spudded or reentered on or after July 1, 1997, and  
2 prior to July 1, 2015, a well that discovers crude oil in paying  
3 quantities that is more than one (1) mile from the nearest oil well  
4 producing from the same producing interval of the same formation;

5        2. For wells spudded or reentered on or after July 1, 1997, and  
6 prior to July 1, 2015, a well that discovers crude oil in paying  
7 quantities beneath current production in a deeper producing interval  
8 that is more than one (1) mile from the nearest oil well producing  
9 from the same deeper producing interval;

10       3. For wells spudded or reentered on or after July 1, 1997, and  
11 prior to July 1, 2015, a well that discovers natural gas in paying  
12 quantities that is more than two (2) miles from the nearest gas well  
13 producing from the same producing interval; or

14       4. For wells spudded or reentered on and after July 1, 1997,  
15 and prior to July 1, 2015, a well that discovers natural gas in  
16 paying quantities beneath current production in a deeper producing  
17 interval that is more than two (2) miles from the nearest gas well  
18 producing from the same deeper producing interval.

19       J. Except as otherwise provided by this section, the production  
20 of oil, gas or oil and gas from any well, drilling of which is  
21 commenced after July 1, 2000, and prior to July 1, 2015, located  
22 within the boundaries of a three-dimensional seismic shoot and  
23 drilled based on three-dimensional seismic technology, shall be  
24

1 exempt from the gross production tax levied pursuant to subsection B  
2 of this section from the date of first sales as follows:

3 1. If the three-dimensional seismic shoot is shot prior to July  
4 1, 2000, for a period of eighteen (18) months; and

5 2. If the three-dimensional seismic shoot is shot on or after  
6 July 1, 2000, for a period of twenty-eight (28) months; provided  
7 however, that the exemption provided by this subsection shall not  
8 apply to production occurring on or after July 1, 2017. For all  
9 such production, a refund against gross production taxes shall be  
10 issued as provided in subsection L of this section.

11 K. 1. The exemptions provided for in subsections F, G, I and J  
12 of this section, the exemption provided for in subparagraph a of  
13 paragraph 2 of subsection H of this section, and the exemptions  
14 provided for in subparagraphs b and c of paragraph 2 of subsection H  
15 of this section for production from wells spudded before July 1,  
16 2005, shall not apply:

17 a. to the severance or production of oil, upon  
18 determination by the Tax Commission that the average  
19 annual index price of Oklahoma oil exceeds Thirty  
20 Dollars (\$30.00) per barrel calculated on an annual  
21 calendar year basis, as adjusted for inflation using  
22 the Consumer Price Index-All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)  
23 as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the  
24 U.S. Department of Labor or its successor agency.

1           Such adjustment shall be based on the most current  
2           data available for the preceding twelve-month period  
3           and shall be applied for the fiscal year which begins  
4           on the July 1 date immediately following the release  
5           of the CPI-U data by the Bureau of Statistics.

6           (1) The "average annual index price" will be  
7                 calculated by multiplying the West Texas  
8                 Intermediate closing price by the "index price  
9                 ratio". The index price ratio is defined as the  
10                immediate preceding three-year historical average  
11                ratio of the actual weighted average wellhead  
12                price to the West Texas Intermediate close price  
13                published on the last business day of each month.

14           (2) The average annual index price will be updated  
15                 annually by the Oklahoma Tax Commission no later  
16                 than March 31 of each year.

17           (3) If the West Texas Intermediate Crude price is  
18                 unavailable for any reason, an industry benchmark  
19                 price may be substituted and used for the  
20                 calculation of the index price as determined by  
21                 the Tax Commission,

22           b.    to the severance or production of oil or gas upon  
23                 which gross production taxes are paid at a rate of one  
24

1 percent (1%) pursuant to the provisions of subsection  
2 B of this section, and

3 c. to the severance or production of gas, upon  
4 determination by the Tax Commission that the average  
5 annual index price of Oklahoma gas exceeds Five  
6 Dollars (\$5.00) per thousand cubic feet (mcf)  
7 calculated on an annual calendar year basis as  
8 adjusted for inflation using the Consumer Price Index-  
9 All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) as published by the Bureau  
10 of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor or  
11 its successor agency. Such adjustment shall be based  
12 on the most current data available for the preceding  
13 twelve-month period and shall be applied for the  
14 fiscal year which begins on the July 1 date  
15 immediately following the release of the CPI-U data by  
16 the Bureau of Statistics.

17 (1) The "average annual index price" will be  
18 calculated by multiplying the Henry Hub 3-Day  
19 Average Close price by the "index price ratio".  
20 The index price ratio is defined as the immediate  
21 preceding three-year historical average ratio of  
22 the actual weighted average wellhead price to the  
23 Henry Hub 3-Day Average Close price published on  
24 the last business day of each month.

1 (2) The average annual index price will be updated  
2 annually by the Oklahoma Tax Commission no later  
3 than March 31 of each year.

4 (3) If the Henry Hub 3-Day Average Close price is  
5 unavailable for any reason, an industry benchmark  
6 price may be substituted and used for the  
7 calculation of the index price as determined by  
8 the Tax Commission.

9 2. Notwithstanding the exemptions granted pursuant to  
10 subsections F, G, I, J, paragraph 1 of subsection E, and  
11 subparagraph a of paragraph 2 of subsection H of this section, there  
12 shall continue to be levied upon the production of petroleum or  
13 other crude or mineral oil or natural gas or casinghead gas, as  
14 provided in subsection B of this section, from any wells provided  
15 for in subsections F, G, I, J, paragraph 1 of subsection E, and  
16 subparagraph a of paragraph 2 of subsection H of this section, a tax  
17 equal to one percent (1%) of the gross value of the production of  
18 petroleum or other crude or mineral oil or natural gas or casinghead  
19 gas. The tax hereby levied shall be apportioned as follows:

20 a. fifty percent (50%) of the sum collected shall be  
21 apportioned to the County Highway Fund as provided in  
22 subparagraph b of paragraph 1 of subsection B of  
23 Section 1004 of this title, and  
24

1           b.    fifty percent (50%) of the sum collected shall be  
2                    apportioned to the appropriate school district as  
3                    provided in subparagraph c of paragraph 1 of  
4                    subsection B of Section 1004 of this title.

5           Upon the expiration of the exemption granted pursuant to  
6   subsection E, F, G, H, I or J of this section, the provisions of  
7   this paragraph shall have no force or effect.

8           L. 1.  Prior to July 1, 2015, and except as provided in  
9   subsection M of this section, for all oil and gas production exempt  
10   from gross production taxes pursuant to subsections E, F, G, H, I  
11   and J of this section during a given fiscal year, a refund of gross  
12   production taxes shall be issued to the well operator or a designee  
13   in the amount of such gross production taxes paid during such  
14   period, subject to the following provisions:

15           a.    a refund shall not be claimed until after the end of  
16                    such fiscal year.  As used in this subsection, a  
17                    fiscal year shall be deemed to begin on July 1 of one  
18                    calendar year and shall end on June 30 of the  
19                    subsequent calendar year,

20           b.    unless otherwise specified, no claims for refunds  
21                    pursuant to the provisions of this subsection shall be  
22                    filed more than eighteen (18) months after the first  
23                    day of the fiscal year in which the refund is first  
24                    available,

1 c. no claims for refunds pursuant to the provisions of  
2 this subsection shall be filed by or on behalf of  
3 persons other than the operator or a working interest  
4 owner of record at the time of production,

5 d. no refunds shall be claimed or paid pursuant to the  
6 provisions of this subsection for oil or gas  
7 production upon which a tax is paid at a rate of one  
8 percent (1%) as specified in subsection B of this  
9 section, and

10 e. no refund shall be paid unless the person making the  
11 claim for refund demonstrates by affidavit or other  
12 means prescribed by the Tax Commission that an amount  
13 equal to or greater than the amount of the refund has  
14 been invested in the exploration for or production of  
15 crude oil or natural gas in this state by such person  
16 not more than three (3) years prior to the date of the  
17 claim. No amount of investment used to qualify for a  
18 refund pursuant to the provisions of this subsection  
19 may be used to qualify for another refund pursuant to  
20 the provisions of this subsection.

21 If there are insufficient funds collected from the production of  
22 oil to satisfy the refunds claimed for oil production pursuant to  
23 subsection E, F, G, H, I or J of this section, the Tax Commission  
24

1 shall pay the balance of the refund claims out of the gross  
2 production taxes collected from the production of gas.

3 2. On or after July 1, 2015, for all oil and gas production  
4 exempt from gross production taxes pursuant to subsections F and G  
5 of this section during a given fiscal year, a refund of gross  
6 production taxes shall be issued to the well operator or a designee  
7 in the amount of such gross production taxes paid during such  
8 period, subject to the following provisions:

- 9 a. a refund shall not be claimed until after the end of  
10 such fiscal year. As used in this subsection, a  
11 fiscal year shall be deemed to begin on July 1 of one  
12 calendar year and shall end on June 30 of the  
13 subsequent calendar year,
- 14 b. unless otherwise specified, no claims for refunds  
15 pursuant to the provisions of this subsection shall be  
16 filed more than eighteen (18) months after the first  
17 day of the fiscal year in which the refund is first  
18 available, or September 30, 2017, whichever is sooner,
- 19 c. no claims for refunds pursuant to the provisions of  
20 this subsection shall be filed by or on behalf of  
21 persons other than the operator or a working interest  
22 owner of record at the time of production,
- 23 d. no refunds shall be claimed or paid pursuant to the  
24 provisions of this subsection for oil or gas



1 production upon which a tax is paid at a rate of two  
2 percent (2%), and

3 e. no refund shall be paid unless the person making the  
4 claim for refund demonstrates by affidavit or other  
5 means prescribed by the Tax Commission that an amount  
6 equal to or greater than the amount of the refund has  
7 been invested in the exploration for or production of  
8 crude oil or natural gas in this state by such person  
9 not more than three (3) years prior to the date of the  
10 claim. No amount of investment used to qualify for a  
11 refund pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph  
12 may be used to qualify for another refund pursuant to  
13 the provisions of this paragraph.

14 If there are insufficient funds collected from the production of  
15 oil or gas to satisfy the refunds claimed for oil or gas production  
16 pursuant to subsection F or G of this section, the Tax Commission  
17 shall pay the balance of the refund claims out of the gross  
18 production taxes collected from either the production of oil or gas,  
19 as necessary.

20 3. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, after the  
21 effective date of this act, no refund of gross production taxes  
22 shall be claimed for oil and gas production exempt from gross  
23 production taxes pursuant to subsections E, F, G, H, I and J of this  
24 section for production occurring prior to July 1, 2003.

1 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, no  
2 claims for refunds pursuant to the provisions of subsections F, G, I  
3 and J and subparagraph a of paragraph 2 of subsection H of this  
4 section shall be filed or accepted on or after October 1, 2017.

5 M. Claims for refunds pursuant to the provisions of subsections  
6 F, G, I and J and subparagraph a of paragraph 2 of subsection H of  
7 this section for production periods ending on or before June 30,  
8 2017, shall be paid pursuant to the provisions of this subsection.  
9 The claims for refunds referenced herein shall be paid in equal  
10 payments over a period of thirty-six (36) months. The first payment  
11 shall be made after July 1, 2018, but prior to August 1, 2018. The  
12 Tax Commission shall provide, not later than June 30, 2018, to the  
13 operator or designated interest owner, a schedule of rebates to be  
14 paid out over the thirty-six-month period.

15 N. 1. The Corporation Commission and the Tax Commission shall  
16 promulgate joint rules for the qualification for the exemptions  
17 provided for in this section and the rules shall contain provisions  
18 for verification of any wells from which production may be qualified  
19 for the exemptions. The Tax Commission shall adopt rules and  
20 regulations which establish guidelines for production of oil or gas  
21 after July 1, 2011, which is exempt from tax pursuant to the  
22 provisions of paragraph 1 of subsection E and subparagraphs b and c  
23 of paragraph 2 of subsection H of this section to remit tax at the  
24 reduced rate provided in paragraph 2 of subsection E and

1 subparagraphs d and e of paragraph 2 of subsection H of this section  
2 until the end of the qualifying exemption period.

3 2. Any person requesting any exemption shall file an  
4 application for qualification for the exemption with the Corporation  
5 Commission which, upon finding that the well meets the requirements  
6 of this section, shall approve the application for qualification.

7 3. Any person seeking an exemption shall:

8 a. file an application for the exemption with the Tax  
9 Commission which, upon determination of qualification  
10 by the Corporation Commission, shall approve the  
11 application for an exemption, and

12 b. provide a copy of the approved application to the  
13 remitter of the gross production tax.

14 4. The Tax Commission may require any person requesting an  
15 exemption to furnish necessary financial and other information or  
16 records in order to determine and justify the refund.

17 5. Upon the expiration of an exemption granted pursuant to this  
18 section, the Tax Commission shall collect the gross production tax  
19 levied pursuant to this section. If a person who qualifies for the  
20 exemption elects to remit his or her own gross production tax during  
21 the exemption period, the first purchaser shall not be liable to  
22 withhold or remit the tax until the first day of the month following  
23 the receipt of written notification from the person who is qualified  
24 for such exemption stating that such exemption has expired and

1 directing the first purchaser to resume tax remittance on his or her  
2 behalf.

3       0. 1. Prior to July 1, 2015, persons shall only be entitled to  
4 either the exemption granted pursuant to subsection D of this  
5 section or the exemption granted pursuant to subsection E, F, G, H,  
6 I or J of this section for each oil, gas or oil and gas well drilled  
7 or recompleted in this state. However, any person who qualifies for  
8 the exemption granted pursuant to subsection E, F, G, H, I or J of  
9 this section shall not be prohibited from qualification for the  
10 exemption granted pursuant to subsection D of this section, if the  
11 exemption granted pursuant to subsection E, F, G, H, I or J of this  
12 section has expired.

13       2. On or after July 1, 2015, all persons shall only be entitled  
14 to either the exemption granted pursuant to subsection D of this  
15 section or the exemption granted pursuant to subsection F or G of  
16 this section for each oil, gas, or oil and gas well drilled or  
17 recompleted in this state. However, any person who qualifies for  
18 the exemption granted pursuant to subsections F and G of this  
19 section shall not be prohibited from qualification for the exemption  
20 granted pursuant to subsection D of this section if the exemption  
21 granted pursuant to subsection F or G of this section has expired.  
22 Further, the exemption granted pursuant to subsection D of this  
23 section shall not apply to any production upon which a tax is paid  
24 at a rate of two percent (2%).

1 P. The Tax Commission shall have the power to require any such  
2 person engaged in mining or the production or the purchase of such  
3 asphalt, mineral ores aforesaid, oil, or gas, or the owner of any  
4 royalty interest therein to furnish any additional information by it  
5 deemed to be necessary for the purpose of correctly computing the  
6 amount of the tax; and to examine the books, records and files of  
7 such person; and shall have power to conduct hearings and compel the  
8 attendance of witnesses, and the production of books, records and  
9 papers of any person.

10 Q. Any person or any member of any firm or association, or any  
11 officer, official, agent or employee of any corporation who shall  
12 fail or refuse to testify; or who shall fail or refuse to produce  
13 any books, records or papers which the Tax Commission shall require;  
14 or who shall fail or refuse to furnish any other evidence or  
15 information which the Tax Commission may require; or who shall fail  
16 or refuse to answer any competent questions which may be put to him  
17 or her by the Tax Commission, touching the business, property,  
18 assets or effects of any such person relating to the gross  
19 production tax imposed by this article or exemption authorized  
20 pursuant to this section or other laws, shall be guilty of a  
21 misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a  
22 fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or  
23 imprisonment in the jail of the county where such offense shall have  
24 been committed, for not more than one (1) year, or by both such fine

1 and imprisonment; and each day of such refusal on the part of such  
2 person shall constitute a separate and distinct offense.

3 R. The Tax Commission shall have the power and authority to  
4 ascertain and determine whether or not any report herein required to  
5 be filed with it is a true and correct report of the gross products,  
6 and of the value thereof, of such person engaged in the mining or  
7 production or purchase of asphalt and ores bearing minerals  
8 aforesaid and of oil and gas. If any person has made an untrue or  
9 incorrect report of the gross production or value or volume thereof,  
10 or shall have failed or refused to make such report, the Tax  
11 Commission shall, under the rules prescribed by it, ascertain the  
12 correct amount of either, and compute the tax.

13 S. The payment of the taxes herein levied shall be in full, and  
14 in lieu of all taxes by the state, counties, cities, towns, school  
15 districts and other municipalities upon any property rights attached  
16 to or inherent in the right to the minerals, upon producing leases  
17 for the mining of asphalt and ores bearing lead, zinc, jack or  
18 copper, or for oil, or for gas, upon the mineral rights and  
19 privileges for the minerals aforesaid belonging or appertaining to  
20 land, upon the machinery, appliances and equipment used in and  
21 around any well producing oil, or gas, or any mine producing asphalt  
22 or any of the mineral ores aforesaid and actually used in the  
23 operation of such well or mine. The payment of gross production tax  
24 shall also be in lieu of all taxes upon the oil, gas, asphalt or

1 ores bearing minerals hereinbefore mentioned during the tax year in  
2 which the same is produced, and upon any investment in any of the  
3 leases, rights, privileges, minerals or other property described  
4 herein. Any interest in the land, other than that herein  
5 enumerated, and oil in storage, asphalt and ores bearing minerals  
6 hereinbefore named, mined, produced and on hand at the date as of  
7 which property is assessed for general and ad valorem taxation for  
8 any subsequent tax year, shall be assessed and taxed as other  
9 property within the taxing district in which such property is  
10 situated at the time.

11 T. No equipment, material or property shall be exempt from the  
12 payment of ad valorem tax by reason of the payment of the gross  
13 production tax except such equipment, machinery, tools, material or  
14 property as is actually necessary and being used and in use in the  
15 production of asphalt or of ores bearing lead, zinc, jack or copper  
16 or of oil or gas. Provided, the exemption shall include the  
17 wellbore and non-recoverable down-hole material, including casing,  
18 actually used in the disposal of waste materials produced with such  
19 oil or gas. It is expressly declared that no ice plants, hospitals,  
20 office buildings, garages, residences, gasoline extraction or  
21 absorption plants, water systems, fuel systems, rooming houses and  
22 other buildings, nor any equipment or material used in connection  
23 therewith, shall be exempt from ad valorem tax.

24

1 U. The exemption from ad valorem tax set forth in subsections S  
2 and T of this section shall continue to apply to all property from  
3 which production of oil, gas or oil and gas is exempt from gross  
4 production tax pursuant to subsection D, E, F, G, H, I or J of this  
5 section.

6 SECTION 3. The Ballot Title for the proposed act shall be in  
7 the following form:

8 BALLOT TITLE

9 Legislative Referendum No. \_\_\_\_\_ State Question No. \_\_\_\_\_

10 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

11 For new oil and gas wells where drilling commences on or after  
12 the effective date of the measure, the measure eliminates gross  
13 production tax rate incentives that currently reduce the gross  
14 production tax rate on production below 7%.

15 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

16 FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES \_\_\_\_\_

17 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL - NO \_\_\_\_\_

18 SECTION 4. The Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives,  
19 immediately after the passage of this act, shall prepare and file  
20 one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in SECTION 3  
21 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney  
22 General.

23  
24 56-1EX-50015 JM 09/23/17