

## SENATE BILL NO. 93

INTRODUCED BY R. ERICKSON

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING THE COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD OF OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION; AMENDING SECTION 2-15-3303, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN APPLICABILITY DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 2-15-3303, MCA, is amended to read:

**"2-15-3303. Board of oil and gas conservation -- composition -- allocation -- quasi-judicial. (1)**

There is a board of oil and gas conservation.

(2) ~~The~~ Except as provided in subsection (5), the board consists of ~~seven~~ nine members;

(a) ~~three~~ three of whom ~~shall~~ must be from the oil and gas industry and have had at least 3 years' experience in the production of oil and gas ~~and~~;

(b) ~~two~~ two of whom ~~shall~~ must be landowners residing in oil or gas producing counties of the state but not actively associated with the oil and gas industry, but one of the two landowners ~~shall~~ must be one who owns the mineral rights with the surface and the other ~~shall~~ must be one who does not own the mineral rights; and

(c) two of whom must have experience in geology, with one of them being a ground water hydrogeologist and one being a geochemist.

(3) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121. However, the board may hire its own personnel, and 2-15-121(2)(d) does not apply. The board may also prescribe the duties and annual salary of four professional staff positions.

(4) ~~The~~ Except as provided in subsection (5), the board is designated as a quasi-judicial board for purposes of 2-15-124.

(5) Members appointed in accordance with subsection (2)(c) may participate in board actions only when the board is acting on applications for the permitting or operation of carbon dioxide injection wells pursuant to Title 82, chapter 11, part 1."

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

