



# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

---

## Bill Analysis

Helena Volzer

### **H.B. 562**

132nd General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

**Reps.** Leland, Rogers, Ashford, K. Smith, Boggs, Ingram, Sheehy, Brown, Clyde, West

---

### **BILL SUMMARY**

- Prohibits the Chief of the Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management from issuing a permit to drill a horizontal oil and gas well when the well pad is proposed to be located in a park or other specified natural area.
- 

### **CONTENT AND OPERATION**

#### **Drilling in parks and other natural areas**

Under current law, the Chief of the Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management may issue a permit for any of the following purposes:

- Drilling a new oil and gas well;
- Drilling an existing well deeper;
- Reopening a well;
- Converting a well to any use other than its original purpose; or
- Plugging back a well to a different source of supply, including associated production operations.<sup>1</sup>

The bill prohibits the Chief from issuing a permit for the purpose of drilling a new horizontal oil and gas well when the well pad is proposed to be located in any of the following locations:

---

<sup>1</sup> R.C. 1509.06(A).

- A state park;
- A state wildlife area;
- A state forest;
- A state nature preserve;
- A park district;
- A county park;
- A township park; or
- A municipal park.<sup>2</sup>

For purposes of the prohibition, a well pad is the area that is cleared or prepared for the drilling of one or more horizontal wells.<sup>3</sup>

### **Nomination of state land for drilling**

Under current law, the Oil and Gas Leasing Commission is responsible for the oversight and nomination of parcels of state land for drilling. Thus, the Commission could nominate a parcel of state land for drilling that is located in a state park, wildlife area, or forest.<sup>4</sup> However, if the bill is enacted, it appears that the Chief could only approve a permit to horizontally drill in the park, wildlife area, or forest if the well pad is proposed to be located outside of the park, area, or forest.

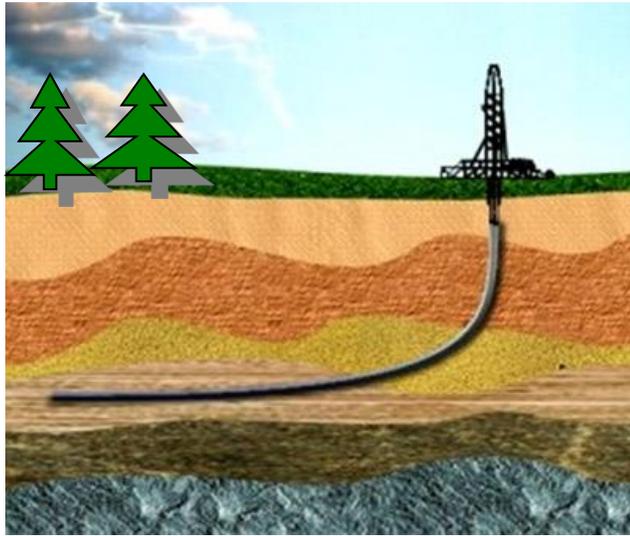
---

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 1509.06(L).

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 1509.01(HH), not in the bill.

<sup>4</sup> R.C. 1509.71 through 1509.78, not in the bill. The Commission may not nominate a parcel of land located in a state nature preserve. R.C. 1509.73(I), not in the bill.





---

## HISTORY

ACTION

DATE

Introduced

03-19-18

H0562-I-132.docx/ar