A-Bill for an Act

Relating to hydraulic fracturing; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2019 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 520.

SECTION 2. (1) A person may not use hydraulic fracturing in the exploration for or the production of oil and gas in this state.

(2) As used in this section, “hydraulic fracturing” means the drilling technique of expanding existing fractures or creating new fractures in rock by injecting water, with or without chemicals, sand or other substances, into or underneath the surface of the rock for the purpose of stimulating oil or gas production. “Hydraulic fracturing” does not mean drilling required for:

(a) Natural gas storage wells;

(b) Geothermal wells or activities related to exploration for geothermal energy; and

(c) Coal bed methane extraction wells in existence as of the effective date of this 2019 Act.

SECTION 3. This 2019 Act is repealed on January 2, 2025.

SECTION 4. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect on its passage.

NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in boldfaced type.

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