

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 2240
Version: As introduced

DATE: March 28, 2016

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Subject: Right-of-way acquisition for large energy projects

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H.F. 2240 establishes a position of property rights ombudsman at the Public Utilities Commission to assist landowners whose property may be affected by the construction of high-voltage transmission lines, pipelines, electric generating facilities, and similar projects. The ombudsman is to provide impartial information to landowners regarding the right-of-way acquisition process, its timelines and procedures, the legal rights and options of property owners, and how to locate appraisers and attorneys familiar with the process. The ombudsman is to be funded by commission assessments on the utilities or companies proposing the energy projects.