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Bill would fix Texas roads where drilling has taken a toll



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State or county roads that have taken a beating from oil and gas drilling could be fixed under a bill proposed in the Texas Legislature.

Rep. [Jim Keffer](#), R-Eastland, filed H.B. 1336 that would tap the state's economic stabilization fund, also known as the rainy day fund, to pay for transportation grants in major drilling areas.

The bill would establish criteria for the grants, such as proximity to major drilling operations, financial need and the number of wells drilled in the area in the past two years.

According to the bill, grants would pay for, "Construction, reconstruction or maintenance of transportation infrastructure intended to alleviate degradation caused by the exploration, development or production of oil or gas."

If adopted the bill would go into effect Sept. 1 with an initial allocation of \$1.4 million.

Keffer, who chairs the House Energy Resources Committee, filed the bill Feb. 14.

Nicholas covers energy, banking and other topics for the Dallas Business Journal.