for appointment to the Oil and Gas Commission pursuant to G.S. 143B-293.2(a1), as enacted by Section 4(a) of this act, for confirmation by the General Assembly by joint resolution. Upon failure of the Governor to submit names as provided herein by December 1, 2016, the Lieutenant Governor shall make such appointments, and if such appointments made by the Lieutenant Governor occur when the General Assembly is not in session, the member may be appointed and serve on an interim basis pending confirmation by the General Assembly.

SECTION 4.(c) For purposes of the rules set forth in 15A NCAC 05H (Oil and Gas Conservation Rules), modifications made to the Oil and Gas Commission under Section 4(a) of this act shall, pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.7, be construed to (1) have repealed authority to adopt such rules given to previously constituted commissions and (2) transferred the authority to adopt such rules to the Oil and Gas Commission as modified by Section 4(a) of this act. Therefore, pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.7, rules set forth in 15A NCAC 05H (Oil and Gas Conservation Rules) shall be effective until the Oil and Gas Commission, as modified Section 4(a) of this act, amends or repeals the rules.

SECTION 4.(d) This section is effective when it becomes law.

SECTION 5. The provisions of this act shall be severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, or provision is declared to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the remainder of this act shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 6. Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 1st day of June, 2016.

Daniel J. Forest

President of the Senate

Tim Moore

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Pat McCrory Governor