

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
78R4658 MTB-F

S.B. 731  
By: Brimer  
Business & Commerce  
4/1/2003  
As Filed

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Currently, a retail electric provider (REP) is required to register with a municipality as a condition of providing retail electric service to residents of the municipality and the municipality may charge a reasonable fee for registration. This has created numerous municipal registration and fee requirements for REPs. As proposed, S.B. 731 requires the Public Utility Commission to adopt standard requirements for REPs to register with municipalities.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

Rulemaking authority is expressly granted to the Public Utility Commission of Texas in SECTION 1 (Section 17.051, Utilities Code) of this bill.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 17.051, Utilities Code, by amending Subsection (b) and by adding Subsection (c), as follows:

(b) Requires the rules adopted under Subsections (a) and (c) to be consistent with and no less effective than federal law and prohibits the disclosure of highly sensitive competitive or trade secret information.

(c) Requires the Public Utility Commission of Texas to adopt rules governing the local registration of retail electric providers under section 39.358.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2003.