

By: Turner

H.B. No. 2615

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the reimbursement of expenses in ratemaking proceedings.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 33.023, Utilities Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 33.023. RATEMAKING PROCEEDINGS. (a) The governing body of a municipality participating in or conducting a ratemaking proceeding may engage rate consultants, accountants, auditors, attorneys, and engineers to:

(1) conduct investigations, present evidence, and advise and represent the governing body; and

(2) assist the governing body with litigation in ~~[an electric utility]~~ ratemaking proceeding for the electric utility or the affiliated retail electric provider before the governing body, a regulatory authority, or a court.

(b) The electric utility or the affiliated retail electric provider in the ratemaking proceeding shall reimburse the governing body of the municipality for the reasonable cost of the services of a person engaged under Subsection (a) to the extent the applicable regulatory authority determines is reasonable.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

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- 1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
- 2 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.