

By: Lucio

S.B. No. 647

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the allocation of certain community development block  
3 grant program money for the installation of street lights in  
4 colonias.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter I, Chapter 487, Government Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 487.354 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 487.354. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR INSTALLATION OF  
9 STREET LIGHTS IN COLONIAS. (a) In this section, "colonia" means an  
10 identifiable unincorporated community, or an identifiable  
11 community annexed by a municipality and eligible for assistance as  
12 described by Section 43.907(b), Local Government Code, that:

13 (1) is located within 150 miles of the international  
14 border of this state in a county that is eligible to receive  
15 financial assistance from the community development block grant  
16 colonia fund under this subchapter, as identified by office rule;

17 (2) is determined by the office to be a colonia on the  
18 basis of objective criteria, including lack of potable water  
19 supply, lack of adequate sewage systems, and lack of decent, safe,  
20 and sanitary housing; and

21 (3) was in existence and generally recognized as a  
22 colonia before November 28, 1990.

23 (b) The office shall adopt a rule requiring a political  
24 subdivision that receives community development block grant

1 program money targeted toward street improvement projects to  
2 allocate not less than five percent but not more than 15 percent of  
3 the total amount of targeted money to providing financial  
4 assistance to colonias within the political subdivision to enable  
5 the installation of adequate street lighting in those colonias.

6 SECTION 2. (a) Section 487.354, Government Code, as added  
7 by this Act, applies only to an allocation of community development  
8 block grant program money based on an application cycle that begins  
9 on or after the effective date of this Act.

10 (b) The Office of Rural Community Affairs shall adopt the  
11 rule required by Section 487.354, Government Code, as added by this  
12 Act, not later than November 1, 2005.

13 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.