

Amend CSSB 482 by adding the following appropriately numbered SECTION to read as follows and renumbering subsequent SECTIONS accordingly:

SECTION _____. Subchapter C, Chapter 39, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Section 39.1017 to read as follows:

Sec. 39.1017. PROHIBITION REQUIRING DEPOSITS FROM ELDERLY LOW-INCOME CUSTOMERS. (a) In this section, "elderly low-income customer" means an electric customer who is 65 years or older and:

(A) whose household income is not more than 125 percent of the federal poverty guidelines;

(B) receives food stamps from the Health and Human Services Commission; or

(C) receives medical assistance from a state agency that administers a part of the medical assistance program.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 17.008, a retail electric provider may not require an elderly low-income customer applying for residential electric service to provide a security deposit or advance payment as a condition of service.