

1-1 By: Guillen (Senate Sponsor - Zaffirini) H.B. No. 2892
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 10, 2007;
1-3 May 14, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural
1-4 Resources; May 18, 2007, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-5 Yeas 8, Nays 2; May 18, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to consolidated billing and collection of fees and
1-9 payments of certain sewer service corporations and water supply
1-10 corporations.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 13, Water Code, is amended
1-13 by adding Section 13.146 to read as follows:

1-14 Sec. 13.146. CONSOLIDATED BILLING AND COLLECTION
1-15 CONTRACTS. (a) A retail public utility providing water service may
1-16 contract with a retail public utility providing sewer service to
1-17 bill and collect the sewer service provider's fees and payments as
1-18 part of a consolidated process with the billing and collection of
1-19 the water service provider's fees and payments. The water service
1-20 provider may provide that service only for customers who are served
1-21 by both providers in an area covered by both providers'
1-22 certificates of public convenience and necessity. If the water
1-23 service provider refuses to enter into a contract under this
1-24 section or if the water service provider and sewer service provider
1-25 cannot agree on the terms of a contract, the sewer service provider
1-26 may petition the commission to issue an order requiring the water
1-27 service provider to provide that service.

1-28 (b) A contract or order under this section must provide
1-29 procedures and deadlines for submitting billing and customer
1-30 information to the water service provider and for the delivery of
1-31 collected fees and payments to the sewer service provider.

1-32 (c) A contract or order under this section may require or
1-33 permit a water service provider that provides consolidated billing
1-34 and collection of fees and payments to:

1-35 (1) terminate the water services of a person whose
1-36 sewage services account is in arrears for nonpayment; and

1-37 (2) charge a customer a reconnection fee if the
1-38 customer's water service is terminated for nonpayment of the
1-39 customer's sewage services account.

1-40 (d) A water service provider that provides consolidated
1-41 billing and collection of fees and payments may impose on each sewer
1-42 service provider customer a reasonable fee to recover costs
1-43 associated with providing consolidated billing and collection of
1-44 fees and payments for sewage services.

1-45 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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