

By: Turner of Tarrant

H.B. No. 995

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to notice of expiration and price change in retail electric service contracts.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 39, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Section 39.112 to read as follows:

Sec. 39.112. NOTICE OF EXPIRATION AND PRICE CHANGE. (a) In this section, "fixed price contract" means a residential retail electric service contract for which the price per kilowatt hour is stated in the contract and does not change throughout the term of the contract. The term does not include month-to-month service.

(b) A retail electric provider shall provide a residential customer who has a fixed price contract with written notification of the date the fixed price contract is scheduled to expire, the date the price is scheduled to change, if applicable, and the amount of the price change. The notice must:

(1) be sent to the customer's billing address by mail postmarked not less than 60 days before the date the price is scheduled to change;

(2) be sent to the customer's e-mail address, if available to the provider, not less than 60 days before the date the price is scheduled to change; and

(3) include a statement that reads: "You may shop for electricity providers at <http://www.powertochoose.org>."

1 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
2 to a contract for retail electric service entered into or renewed on
3 or after the effective date of this Act. A contract for retail
4 electric service entered into or renewed before the effective date
5 of this Act is governed by the law as it existed immediately before
6 the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect
7 for that purpose.

8 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.