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       By: Guillen, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Lucio)
                                                                      H.B. No. 2374
       (In the Senate - Received from the House April 8, 2009; April 27, 2009, read first time and referred to Committee on International Relations and Trade; May 8, 2009, reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the following
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       vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; May 8, 2009, sent to printer.)
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       COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 2374
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                                                                          By:
                                                                                Lucio
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                                   A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
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                                           AN ACT
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       relating to financial assistance by the Texas Water Development
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       Board for the connection of residences in economically distressed
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       areas to public water supply and sanitary sewer systems.
              BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
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              SECTION 1. Subchapter K, Chapter 17, Water Code, is amended
       by adding Section 17.9225 to read as follows:
              Sec. 17.9225. RESIDENTIAL WATER AND
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                                                                SEWER
                                                                          CONNECTION
       ASSISTANCE. (a) The legislature finds that, due to public health
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       and sanitation concerns, it is in the public interest to use funds in the economically distressed areas account to provide financial assistance for the costs associated with the initial connection to
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       public water supply and sanitary sewer systems of residences that
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       otherwise benefit from financial assistance.
              (b) A political subdivision may use financial assistance to
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       pay:
                           the costs of connecting a residence to a public
                     (1)
       water supply system constructed with financial assistance;
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                     (2)
                           the costs of installing yard water
       connections;
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                           the costs of installing indoor plumbing facilities
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       and fixtures;
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                     (4)
                           the costs of connecting a residence to a sanitary
       sewer system constructed with financial assistance;
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                     (5) necessary connection and permit fees;
                                                                       and
       (6) necessary costs related to the design of plumbing improvements described by this subsection.
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              (c) Assistance under this section shall only be provided to
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       residents who demonstrate an inability to pay for the improvements
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       described in Subsection (b) in accordance with board rules.
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       board shall adopt rules to implement the provisions of
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SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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section.