

By: Lucio III

H.B. No. 4636

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to energy efficiency audits and improvement loans for
3 customers of electric utilities and transmission and distribution
4 utilities.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 39, Utilities Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 39.9055 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 39.9055. ENERGY EFFICIENCY AUDITS AND IMPROVEMENT
9 LOANS. (a) On the request of a customer and at no cost to the
10 customer, an electric utility or transmission and distribution
11 utility shall perform an energy efficiency audit of the customer's
12 premises.

13 (b) An electric utility or transmission and distribution
14 utility shall offer a customer who participates in an energy audit
15 under Subsection (a) a low-interest loan to pay the costs of
16 installing approved energy efficiency improvements to the
17 customer's premises. A customer who receives a loan under this
18 subsection shall repay the loan by a surcharge on the customer's
19 monthly electricity bill. If a customer sells, ceases to rent, or
20 otherwise permanently abandons the premises for which a loan is
21 granted, the customer shall immediately repay the entire balance of
22 the loan.

23 (c) Each electric utility and transmission and distribution
24 utility shall market the availability of energy efficiency audits

1 and upgrade loans under this section to customers of the utility
2 through retail electric providers.

3 (d) The commission shall adopt rules as necessary to
4 implement this section.

5 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.