

By: Walle

H.B. No. 206

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to notice to ratepayers regarding a water rate increase.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 13, Water Code, is amended by adding Section 13.005 to read as follows:

Sec. 13.005. NOTICE OF RATE INCREASE AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE RESOURCES. (a) A retail public utility that intends to increase its rates must provide notice to each ratepayer of:

(1) the reason or reasons for the proposed rate increase; and

(2) any bill payment assistance program available to low-income ratepayers.

(b) A retail public utility shall provide the notice required by Subsection (a):

(1) with the statement of intent required by Section 13.187; or

(2) if the retail public utility is not required to provide a statement of intent under Section 13.187, with the first billing statement the retail public utility sends to ratepayers after the date the retail public utility announces its intent to increase rates.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.