

By: Watson

S.B. No. 1501

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to energy and efficiency conservation programs administered by the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

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

SECTION 1. Subsection (d), Section 39.905, Utilities Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d) The commission shall establish a procedure for reviewing and evaluating market-transformation program options described by this subsection and other options. In evaluating program options, the commission may consider the ability of a program option to reduce costs to customers through reduced demand, energy savings, and relief of congestion. Utilities may choose to implement any program option approved by the commission after its evaluation in order to satisfy the goal in Subsection (a), including:

- (1) energy-smart schools;
- (2) appliance retirement and recycling;
- (3) air conditioning system tune-ups;
- (4) the use of trees or other landscaping for energy efficiency;
- (5) customer energy management and demand response programs;
- (6) high performance residential and commercial buildings that will achieve the levels of energy efficiency

1 sufficient to qualify those buildings for federal tax incentives;

2 (7) programs for customers who rent or lease their  
3 residence or commercial space;

4 (8) programs providing energy monitoring equipment to  
5 customers that enable a customer to better understand the amount,  
6 price, and time of the customer's energy use;

7 (9) energy audit programs for owners and other  
8 residents of single-family or multifamily residences and for small  
9 commercial customers;

10 (10) net-zero energy new home programs;

11 (11) solar thermal or solar electric programs; ~~and~~

12 (12) programs for using windows and other glazing  
13 systems, glass doors, and skylights in residential and commercial  
14 buildings that reduce solar gain by at least 30 percent from the  
15 level established for the federal Energy Star windows program; and

16 (13) energy use programs with measurable and  
17 verifiable results that reduce energy consumption through  
18 behavioral changes that lead to efficient use patterns and  
19 practices.

20 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
21 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
22 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
23 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
24 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.