

By: Anchia

H.B. No. 58

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to customer protections related to smart thermostat services marketing and contracts.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 17, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Section 17.010 to read as follows:

Sec. 17.010. CUSTOMER PROTECTION; SMART THERMOSTATS. (a) The commission shall ensure that a retail electric provider or aggregator that offers to residential or small commercial customers a product or service related to smart thermostats provides to the customers in marketing communications and contract materials clear descriptions in plain language of the product or service, of the contract terms, and of customers' rights.

(b) The commission shall adopt and enforce rules as necessary to implement this section. Rules adopted under this section must be at least as protective of customers' interests as general commission rules regarding marketing of and contracting for electric services for residential and small commercial customers.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the legislative session.