

1-1 By: Phillips (Senate Sponsor - Deuell) H.B. No. 693
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 3, 2013;
 1-3 May 6, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural
 1-4 Resources; May 15, 2013, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-5 Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 15, 2013, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13			X	
1-14	X			
1-15			X	
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18	X			

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the authority of a water and sewer utility to collect
 1-22 voluntary contributions on behalf of a local library.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Sections 13.143(a), (b), and (d), Water Code,
 1-25 are amended to read as follows:

1-26 (a) A utility may implement as part of its billing process a
 1-27 program under which the utility collects from its customers a
 1-28 voluntary contribution, including a voluntary membership or
 1-29 subscription fee, on behalf of a local library, a volunteer fire
 1-30 department, or an emergency medical service.

1-31 (b) A utility that collects contributions under this
 1-32 section shall provide each customer at the time that the customer
 1-33 first becomes a customer, and at least annually thereafter, a
 1-34 written statement:

1-35 (1) describing the procedure by which the customer may
 1-36 make a contribution with the customer's bill payment;

1-37 (2) designating the local library, volunteer fire
 1-38 department, or emergency medical service to which the utility will
 1-39 deliver the contribution;

1-40 (3) informing the customer that a contribution is
 1-41 voluntary; and

1-42 (4) describing the deductibility status of the
 1-43 contribution under federal income tax law.

1-44 (d) The utility shall promptly deliver contributions that
 1-45 it collects under this section to the designated local library,
 1-46 volunteer fire department, or emergency medical service, except
 1-47 that the utility may keep from the contributions an amount equal to
 1-48 the lesser of:

1-49 (1) the utility's expenses in administering the
 1-50 contribution program; or

1-51 (2) five percent of the amount collected as
 1-52 contributions.

1-53 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 1-54 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 1-55 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
 1-56 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
 1-57 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

1-58 * * * * *