

By: Marquez

H.B. No. 3080

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to a study on the feasibility of creating a program to  
3 provide discounts on Internet access to individuals who are  
4 eligible for lifeline telephone services.

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

6 SECTION 1. STUDY OF INTERNET ACCESS DISCOUNTS. The Public  
7 Utility Commission of Texas shall conduct a study to determine the  
8 feasibility of creating a program to provide discounts on Internet  
9 access to individuals who are eligible for lifeline telephone  
10 services.

11 SECTION 2. SCOPE OF STUDY. The study must examine at least:

- 12 (1) the anticipated benefits of such a program;  
13 (2) the amount of funding needed to implement the  
14 program and potential sources for that funding;  
15 (3) the optimal rates or discounts to be offered under  
16 the program;  
17 (4) ways to implement the program; and  
18 (5) legislation to create the program.

19 SECTION 3. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS. (a) The Public  
20 Utility Commission of Texas shall issue a written report to the  
21 governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of  
22 representatives that includes the commission's evaluation of the  
23 potential program and any recommendations of the commission  
24 regarding legislation that may allow individuals who are eligible

1 for lifeline telephone services to have better or easier access to  
2 the Internet.

3 (b) The report must be issued not later than November 30,  
4 2014.

5 SECTION 4. EXPIRATION. This Act expires December 1, 2014.

6 SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September  
7 1, 2013.