

By: Davis

S.B. No. 599

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the requirement that electric utilities offer a
3 standard retail service package on a standard form with standard
4 terms to a customer.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 39.101(b), Utilities Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (b) A customer is entitled:

9 (1) to be informed about rights and opportunities in
10 the transition to a competitive electric industry;

11 (2) to choose the customer's retail electric provider
12 consistent with this chapter, to have that choice honored, and to
13 assume that the customer's chosen provider will not be changed
14 without the customer's informed consent;

15 (3) to have access to providers of energy efficiency
16 services, to on-site distributed generation, and to providers of
17 energy generated by renewable energy resources;

18 (4) to be served by a provider of last resort that
19 offers a commission-approved standard service package;

20 (5) to receive sufficient information to make an
21 informed choice of service provider;

22 (6) to be protected from unfair, misleading, or
23 deceptive practices, including protection from being billed for
24 services that were not authorized or provided; [~~and~~]

1 (7) to have an impartial and prompt resolution of
2 disputes with its chosen retail electric provider and transmission
3 and distribution utility; and

4 (8) to receive at least one written standard retail
5 service package offer, or a description of such an offer, from a
6 retail electric provider, on a commission-approved standard form
7 with a standard font size, typeface, and page limit, that:

8 (A) offers service for at least 12 months;

9 (B) charges a fixed price per kilowatt hour
10 throughout the term of the offered service period; and

11 (C) does not include a fee that the commission
12 does not require the retail electric provider to charge.

13 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.