

1-1 By: Lucio S.B. No. 614
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 18, 2013; February 25, 2013,
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Business and Commerce;
 1-4 March 18, 2013, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; March 18, 2013,
 1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
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 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 614 By: Lucio

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

1-21 relating to an electric utility surcharge to assist owners of
 1-22 certain historic structures with electric bill payments and to
 1-23 promote energy conservation and efficiency.

1-24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
 1-25 SECTION 1. Subtitle B, Title 2, Utilities Code, is amended
 1-26 by adding Chapter 44 to read as follows:

1-27 CHAPTER 44. ENERGY ASSISTANCE FOR HISTORIC STRUCTURES

1-28 Sec. 44.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

1-29 (1) "Fund" means the historic structure energy
 1-30 assistance fund.

1-31 (2) "Historic structure" has the meaning assigned by
 1-32 Section 442.001, Government Code.

1-33 Sec. 44.002. APPLICABILITY. This chapter applies only to a
 1-34 county that:

- 1-35 (1) has a population of 400,000 or more;
- 1-36 (2) is adjacent to an international border;
- 1-37 (3) borders the Gulf of Mexico; and
- 1-38 (4) is in an area where customer choice has not been
 1-39 adopted.

1-40 Sec. 44.003. HISTORIC STRUCTURE ENERGY ASSISTANCE. (a)
 1-41 The historic structure energy assistance fund is an account in the
 1-42 general revenue fund administered by the commission. Money in the
 1-43 account may be appropriated only for the purposes of a program
 1-44 created under Subsection (c). Interest earned on the fund shall be
 1-45 credited to the fund.

1-46 (b) The commission shall adopt and enforce rules requiring
 1-47 electric utilities, municipally owned utilities, and electric
 1-48 cooperatives to:

- 1-49 (1) establish a monthly surcharge in an amount of 50
 1-50 cents per customer to finance the fund; and
- 1-51 (2) remit the collected surcharges to the comptroller
 1-52 for deposit to the credit of the fund.

1-53 (c) The commission shall establish a grant or loan or other
 1-54 assistance program designed to:

- 1-55 (1) increase energy efficiency in historic
 1-56 structures;
- 1-57 (2) promote energy conservation in historic
 1-58 structures; and
- 1-59 (3) assist owners of historic structures with electric
 1-60 bill payments.

2-1 (d) The commission by rule shall establish application
2-2 procedures and eligibility criteria for an owner of a historic
2-3 structure in need of assistance with payment of electric bills or
2-4 with energy conservation or energy efficiency measures.

2-5 (e) The commission may use money from the fund to pay the
2-6 commission's costs associated with:

2-7 (1) establishing the program under Subsection (c),
2-8 including costs of rulemaking; and

2-9 (2) administering the program and fund.

2-10 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-14 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

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