

By: Bonnen of Galveston

H.B. No. 575

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the notice of contract expiration provided to retail electric customers by retail electric providers.

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

SECTION 1. Section 39.112(b), Utilities Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) A retail electric provider shall provide a residential customer who has a fixed rate product with at least one written notice of the date the fixed rate product will expire. The notice must:

(1) be sent to the customer's billing address by mail at least 30, but not more than 60, days preceding the date the contract will expire;

(2) be sent to the customer's e-mail address, if available to the provider and if the customer has agreed to receive notices electronically, at least 30, but not more than 60, days preceding the date the contract will expire;

(3) include on the outside of the envelope in which the notice is sent, a statement that reads: "Contract Expiration Notice. See Enclosed.";

(4) if included with a customer's bill, be printed on a separate page; ~~and~~

(5) include a description of any fees or charges associated with the early termination of the customer's fixed rate

1 product; and

2 (6) include, in 14-point boldfaced type or 14-point  
3 uppercase letters, a notice that reads as follows: "YOUR CONTRACT  
4 FOR FIXED RATE ELECTRICITY EXPIRES SOON. YOUR RATE MAY CHANGE WHEN  
5 THE CONTRACT EXPIRES."[-]

6 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
7 to a notice sent on or after the effective date of this Act. A notice  
8 sent before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in  
9 effect at that time.

10 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.