By: Davis of Dallas

H.B. No. 1475

	A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1	AN ACT
2	relating to electricity service provided by retail electric
3	providers; creating a criminal offense.
4	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
5	SECTION 1. Section 15.030(b), Utilities Code, is amended to
6	read as follows:
7	(b) This section does not apply to an offense described by
8	Section <u>17.010 or</u> 55.138.
9	SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 17, Utilities Code, is
10	amended by adding Section 17.010 to read as follows:
11	Sec. 17.010. UNAUTHORIZED SERVICE CHANGE; OFFENSE. (a) A
12	person who is not a customer of a retail electric provider at an
13	address may not discontinue the service provided by the retail
14	electric provider at that address and initiate service with a
15	different retail electric provider at that address unless the
16	customer for that address consents.
17	(b) An offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor.
18	SECTION 3. Subchapter Z, Chapter 39, Utilities Code, is
19	amended by adding Section 39.917 to read as follows:
20	Sec. 39.917. SERVICE INITIATION. (a) A retail electric
21	provider may not initiate service for a customer at an address
22	unless:
23	(1) the retail electric provider has determined that
24	no other retail electric provider is currently providing service

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1	for a different customer at that address; or
2	(2) if another retail electric provider is currently
3	providing service for a different customer at that address, the
4	retail electric provider receives a written statement signed by
5	that customer approving the service initiation.
6	(b) For a service at an address that is a rental property,
7	the release required by Subsection (a)(2) may be given by the owner
8	or operator of the property.
9	(c) A retail electric provider may not refuse a request for
10	information made by another retail electric provider for the
11	purposes of complying with this section.

12 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.