

By: Perez

H.B. No. 2114

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authority of the Health and Human Services Commission and the Public Utility Commission of Texas to identify customers who may be eligible for bill payment assistance programs.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 32, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Section 32.005 to read as follows:

Sec. 32.005. INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAM INFORMATION. (a)
The Health and Human Services Commission may regularly provide to the commission a list of persons in this state who:

(1) receive medical assistance under the medical assistance program established under Chapter 32, Human Resources Code; or

(2) receive benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under Chapter 33, Human Resources Code.

(b) The commission may use the list to assist a municipally owned utility, electric cooperative, electric utility, or retail electric provider in providing bill payment assistance to customers who receive assistance or benefits described by Subsection (a).

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

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1 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.