

By: Perez

H.B. No. 296

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to notice of bill payment assistance programs for certain electric customers.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 39, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Section 39.9031 to read as follows:

Sec. 39.9031. NOTICE OF ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS. (a) A retail electric provider, municipally owned utility, or electric cooperative that provided reduced rates to customers using support from the former system benefit fund shall include with a notice of disconnection for nonpayment sent to a customer who received a reduced rate a statement describing payment assistance, alternative payment arrangements, deferred payment plans, or other payment plan options offered by the provider, utility, or cooperative.

(b) This section expires September 1, 2021.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.