

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 1497

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the registration and regulation of brokers by the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter H, Chapter 39, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Section 39.3555 to read as follows:

Sec. 39.3555. REGISTRATION OF BROKERS. (a) In this section, "brokerage services" means:

(1) providing advice or procurement services to, or acting on behalf of, a retail electric customer regarding the selection of a retail electric provider, or a product or service offered by a retail electric provider; or

(2) selling or attempting to sell a product or service offered by a retail electric provider to a retail electric customer.

(b) A person may not provide brokerage services, including brokerage services offered online, in this state for compensation or other consideration unless the person is registered with the commission as a broker.

(c) A retail electric provider may not register as a broker. A broker may not sell or take title to electric energy.

(d) A retail electric provider may not knowingly provide bids or offers to a person who:

(1) provides brokerage services in this state for

1 compensation or other consideration; and

2 (2) has not registered as a broker with the
3 commission.

4 (e) A person who registers under this section shall comply
5 with customer protection provisions, disclosure requirements, and
6 marketing guidelines established by the commission and by this
7 title.

8 (f) The commission shall adopt rules as necessary to
9 implement this section.

10 (g) The commission shall process a person's application for
11 registration as a broker not later than the 60th day after the date
12 the person files the application.

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