

By: VanDeaver

H.B. No. 685

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a critical care protection program for veterinarian electric customers.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 39, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Section 39.113 to read as follows:

Sec. 39.113. CRITICAL CARE VETERINARIAN CUSTOMER DESIGNATION. (a) In this section, "veterinarian" has the meaning assigned by Section 801.002, Occupations Code.

(b) The commission by rule shall:

(1) establish a protection program for veterinarians with electric-powered equipment or medical devices considered crucial for the health or safety of animals under the veterinarian's care that:

(A) notifies the customer of interruptions or suspensions in service; and

(B) provides certain disconnection protections to prevent harm to animals under the veterinarian's care;

(2) create a status designation application process for the program; and

(3) require transmission and distribution utilities to accept status designation applications from veterinarians.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.