

By: Gates

H.B. No. 806

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to nonsubmetered billing for water or wastewater service.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 552, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 552.915 to read as follows:

Sec. 552.915. MUNICIPAL NONSUBMETERED BILLING; CHARGES.

(a) In this section:

(1) "Apartment house" has the meaning assigned by Section 13.501, Water Code.

(2) "Dwelling unit" means:

(A) one or more rooms in an apartment house or condominium, suitable for occupancy as a residence, and containing kitchen and bathroom facilities;

(B) a manufactured home in a manufactured home rental community; or

(C) a unit in a multiple use facility.

(3) "Manufactured home rental community" has the meaning assigned by Section 13.501, Water Code.

(4) "Multiple use facility" has the meaning assigned by Section 13.501, Water Code.

(5) "Municipally owned utility" means a utility that provides water or sewer service and is owned, operated, and controlled by a municipality or by a nonprofit corporation whose directors are appointed by one or more municipalities.

1 (6) "Nonsubmetered master metered utility service"
2 means water utility service that is master metered for the
3 apartment house, manufactured home rental community, or multiple
4 use facility but not submetered, and wastewater utility service
5 based on master metered water utility service.

6 (b) Each municipally owned utility that bills for
7 nonsubmetered master metered utility service shall make publicly
8 available for each apartment house, manufactured home rental
9 community, and multiple use facility billed a statement that
10 includes:

11 (1) a current copy of the municipally owned utility's
12 rate structure applicable to the billed service; and

13 (2) a list of fees and charges applicable to the billed
14 service.

15 (c) Subsection (b) does not authorize or require a
16 municipally owned utility to make an entity's bill publicly
17 available.

18 (d) A municipally owned utility may not charge:

19 (1) a dwelling unit base charge for nonsubmetered
20 master metered utility service if the utility charges a master
21 meter charge for the same apartment house, manufactured home rental
22 community, or multiple use facility; or

23 (2) a master meter charge for nonsubmetered master
24 metered utility service if the charge is based on the number of
25 dwelling units.

26 (e) Subsection (d) does not apply to a dwelling unit base
27 charge that is charged in connection with a fee imposed on the

1 municipally owned utility by another governmental entity.

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