

By: Cortez

H.B. No. 3689

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the appeal of rates charged for water or sewer service by certain retail public utilities.

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

SECTION 1. Section 13.043(j), Water Code, is amended to read as follows:

(j) In an appeal under this section, the utility commission shall ensure that every appealed rate is ~~made, demanded, or received by any retail public utility or by any two or more retail public utilities jointly shall be~~ just and reasonable. Rates shall not be unreasonably preferential, prejudicial, or discriminatory but shall be sufficient, equitable, and consistent in application to each class of customers. The utility commission shall use a methodology that preserves the financial integrity of the retail public utility. For agreements between municipalities the utility commission shall consider the terms of any wholesale water or sewer service agreement in an appellate rate proceeding.

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