

By: Darby

H.B. No. 4475

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to restoring electric service to certain vulnerable customers after a power outage.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 38, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Section 38.0725 to read as follows:

Sec. 38.0725. PRIORITIES FOR POWER RESTORATION TO CERTAIN CUSTOMERS. (a) The commission by rule shall require each retail electric provider to implement a process by which a customer of the provider may report to the provider that the customer has a serious medical condition that requires an electric-powered device.

(b) A retail electric provider shall maintain customer information reported under this section to allow the retail electric provider to quickly identify vulnerable customers during a power outage and notify the relevant transmission and distribution utilities to prioritize those customers for power restoration.

SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the Public Utility Commission of Texas shall adopt the rules required by Section 38.0725, Utilities Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.