By: Cook of Harris S.B. No. 366

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the disconnection of electric service by certain entities during an extreme weather emergency.

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

SECTION 1. Section 39.101(h), Utilities Code, is amended to read as follows:

(h) A retail electric provider, power generation company, aggregator, or other entity that provides retail electric service may not disconnect service to a residential customer during an extreme weather emergency or on a weekend day. The entity providing service shall defer collection of the full payment of bills that are due during an extreme weather emergency until after the emergency is over and shall work with customers to establish a pay schedule for deferred bills. For purposes of this subsection, "extreme weather emergency" means a period when:

(1) the previous day's highest temperature did not exceed 32 degrees Fahrenheit and the temperature is predicted to remain at or below that level for the next 24 hours according to the nearest National Weather Service reports; [~~or~~]

(2) the National Weather Service issues a heat advisory for any county in the relevant service territory, or when such an advisory has been issued on any one of the previous two calendar days; or

(3) any county in the relevant service territory is

subject to a weather-related disaster declaration issued by the governor under Chapter 418, Government Code.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2027.