

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 939

Sponsor: REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS

Printer's No. 2150

1 Amend Bill, page 11, lines 8 through 30; page 12, lines 1
2 through 14, by striking out "SECTION 1407(C)(2)(I) INTRODUCTORY
3 PARAGRAPH OF" in line 8, all of lines 9 through 30 on page 11
4 and all of lines 1 through 14 on page 12 and inserting

5 Sections 1407, 1409 and 1410 of Title 66 are amended to read:
6 § 1407. Reconnection of service.

7 (a) Fee.--A public utility may require a reconnection fee
8 based upon the public utility's cost as approved by the
9 commission prior to reconnection of service following lawful
10 termination of the service.

11 (b) Timing.--When service to a dwelling has been terminated
12 and provided the applicant has met all applicable conditions,
13 the public utility shall reconnect service as follows:

14 (1) Within 24 hours for erroneous terminations or upon
15 receipt by the public utility of a valid medical
16 certification.

17 (2) Within 24 hours for terminations occurring after
18 November 30 and before April 1.

19 (3) Within [three days] 48 hours for erroneous
20 terminations requiring street or sidewalk digging.

21 (4) Within [three days] 24 hours from April 1 to
22 November 30 for proper terminations.

23 (5) Within [seven days] 72 hours for proper terminations
24 requiring street or sidewalk digging.

25 (c) Payment to restore service.--

26 (1) A public utility shall provide for and inform the
27 applicant or customer of a location where the customer can
28 make payment to restore service. When there is contact
29 between a public utility and an applicant or customer
30 concerning restoration of service, the utility shall also
31 notify the applicant or customer verbally and in writing
32 about the public utility's customer assistance program,
33 inquire about the person's eligibility and enroll those
34 eligible into the customer assistance program, with the
35 customer's consent.

36 (2) A public utility may require:

1 (i) Full payment of any [outstanding balance
2 incurred together with any reconnection fees by the
3 customer or applicant prior to reconnection of service]
4 reconnection fees together with repayment over 12 months
5 of any outstanding balance incurred by the customer or
6 applicant if the customer or applicant has an income
7 exceeding 300% of the Federal poverty level. [or has
8 defaulted on two or more payment agreements. If a
9 customer or applicant with household income exceeding
10 300% of the Federal poverty level experiences a life
11 event, the customer shall be permitted a period of not
12 more than three months to pay the outstanding balance
13 required for reconnection. For purposes of this
14 subparagraph, a life event is:

15 (A) A job loss that extended beyond nine months.

16 (B) A serious illness that extended beyond nine
17 months.

18 (C) Death of the primary wage earner.]

19 (ii) Full payment of any reconnection fees together
20 with repayment over [12] 36 months of any outstanding
21 balance incurred by the customer or applicant if the
22 customer or applicant has an income exceeding [150%] 250%
23 of the Federal poverty level but not greater than 300% of
24 the Federal poverty level.

25 (ii.1) Full payment of any reconnection fees
26 together with repayment over 48 months of any outstanding
27 balance incurred by the customer or applicant if the
28 customer or applicant has an income exceeding 150% of the
29 Federal poverty level but not greater than 250% of the
30 Federal poverty level.

31 (iii) Full payment of any reconnection fees together
32 with payment over [24] 60 months of any outstanding
33 balance incurred by the customer or applicant if the
34 customer or applicant has an income not exceeding 150% of
35 the Federal poverty level. A customer or applicant of a
36 [city natural gas distribution operation] public utility
37 whose household income does not exceed [135%] 150% of the
38 Federal poverty level shall be reinstated pursuant to
39 this subsection only if the customer or applicant enrolls
40 in the customer assistance program of the [city natural
41 gas distribution operation] public utility except that
42 this requirement shall not apply if the financial
43 benefits to such customer or applicant are greater if
44 served outside of that assistance program.

45 (iv) For customers enrolled in a public utility's
46 customer assistance program at the time of termination,
47 full payment of any reconnection fees together with a
48 portion of their unpaid customer assistance program
49 payments, to be determined according to standards
50 established by the commission.

51 (3) A public utility shall accept assignment of a LIHEAP

1 Crisis Grant from the Department of Public Welfare or its
2 designee and restore service to a customer enrolled in the
3 utility's customer assistance program.

4 (d) Payment of outstanding balance at premises.--A public
5 utility may also require the payment of any outstanding balance
6 or portion of an outstanding balance if the applicant [resided]
7 was a customer at the property for which service is requested
8 during the time the outstanding balance accrued and for the time
9 the applicant [resided there] was a customer.

10 (e) Approval.--A public utility may establish that an
11 applicant previously [resided] was a customer at a property for
12 which residential service is requested through the use of
13 mortgage, deed or lease information, a commercially available
14 consumer credit reporting service or other methods approved as
15 valid by the commission.

16 Amend Bill, page 12, lines 15 and 16, by striking out all of
17 said lines

18 Amend Bill, page 13, line 12, by striking out "6" and
19 inserting

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21 Amend Bill, page 13, line 24, by striking out "7" and
22 inserting

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24 Amend Bill, page 14, line 23, by striking out "8" and
25 inserting

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