

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 478

BY REPRESENTATIVE KNOX

UTILITIES: Provides with respect to reimbursement for utility overcharges

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Chapter 70 of Title 51 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised
3 of R.S. 51:3301, relative to reimbursement for utility overcharges; to provide for
4 definitions; to provide for reimbursement of overcharges by utilities; to provide for
5 labeling; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. Chapter 70 of Title 51 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,
8 comprised of R.S. 51:3301, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 CHAPTER 70. REIMBURSEMENT OF UTILITY OVERCHARGES

10 §3301. Utility overcharge reimbursement

11 A. For the purposes of this Chapter, the following terms have the following
12 meanings:

13 (1) "Customer" means a person receiving services from a utility provider.

14 (2) "Utility provider" means a provider of water, gas, or electric service that
15 is regulated by the Public Service Commission or a local governmental subdivision
16 or owned or operated by a local governmental subdivision.

17 B.(1) A utility provider that has overcharged a customer shall reimburse the
18 amount overcharged to the customer in full by the next billing cycle.

1 (2) If a customer has ended service with a utility provider, then the utility
2 provider shall send the reimbursement to the customer's address, provided in the
3 former customer's account, within thirty calendar days.

4 C. A utility provider shall label the reimbursement required by this Section
5 as an overcharge reimbursement.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 478 Original

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Knox

Abstract: Provides relative to reimbursement for utility overcharges.

Proposed law defines "customer" and "utility provider".

Proposed law provides that a utility provider that has overcharged a customer shall reimburse the amount overcharged to the customer in full by the next billing cycle.

Proposed law provides for the reimbursement process if a customer has ended service with a utility provider.

Proposed law provides that a utility provider shall label the reimbursement required by this proposed law as an overcharge reimbursement.

(Adds R.S. 51:3301)