

- SUBJECT:** Nonsubstantive recodification of the Public Utility Regulatory Act.
- COMMITTEE:** State Affairs — favorable, with amendment
- VOTE:** 15 ayes — Seidlits, Turner, Alvarado, Black, Bosse, Carter, Craddick, Danburg, Hilbert, Hochberg, B. Hunter, D. Jones, McCall, Ramsay, Wolens
0 nays
- SENATE VOTE:** On final passage, February 7 — 29-0
- WITNESSES:** For — None
Against — None
On — Martin Wilson, Public Utilities Commission, Carolyn Hall, Texas Legislative Council
- BACKGROUND:** The Public Utilities Regulatory Act (PURA), VACS art. 1446c, covers the administration of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and the Office of the Public Utilities Counsel (OPUC) and regulation of electric utilities and telecommunications.

The PUC and OPUC are scheduled to undergo review under the Sunset Act this legislative session. To facilitate review of PURA during the sunset process, the Legislative Council has drafted a nonsubstantive recodification of the act. The recodification follows the format suggested by the report of the Joint Interim Committee on Telecommunications and the Public Utilities Commission: one section on the PUC and OPUC, one on electric utilities and a third on telecommunications.
- DIGEST:** SB 319 proposes a nonsubstantive recodification of the Public Utilities Regulatory Act organizing PURA into three titles:
- Title I: Provisions applicable to all utilities, including organization, management, and powers of the PUC;

- Title II: Electric utilities;
- Title III: Telecommunications utilities.

SB 319 would also specify that the recodification is designed to be nonsubstantive and that any further amendment of PURA by the 74th Legislature will become part of the recodified act.

SB 319 would take immediate effect if approved by two thirds of the membership of each house.

NOTES:

The committee amendment would clarify that use of the term "public utility" would be retained in the recodification.