

SUBJECT: Authorizing disclosure of customer information by utilities

COMMITTEE: State Affairs — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 11 ayes — Hunter, Hernandez, Geren, Guillen, Metcalf, Raymond, Slawson, Smithee, Spiller, S. Thompson, Turner

0 nays

2 absent — Anchía, Dean

WITNESSES: For — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Matt Rose, Lubbock Power & Light; Eric Blackwell, NRG Energy; Gregg Knaupe, Texas Energy Association for Marketers (TEAM); Priscilla Barbour, Vistra Corp)

Against — None

On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Kennedy Meier, Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT); Thomas Gleeson, Public Utility Commission of Texas)

BACKGROUND: Lubbock Power & Light, a municipal utility, has opted to deregulate and join the competitive market. Concerns have been raised that the utility cannot successfully transition to retail competition without certain statutory changes related to the disclosure of customer information to ERCOT.

DIGEST: HB 2664 would authorize a government-operated utility to disclose personal information in a customer’s account record to an entity as necessary to facilitate the transition of customers among retail electric providers or to comply with ERCOT rules, guidelines, and procedures.

The bill also would allow a government-operated utility to disclose customer information to a retail electric provider.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds

record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2023.