
HOUSE BILL 1009

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Morris, Upthegrove, Conway, Hudgins, Morrell, Kenney, P. Sullivan, B. Sullivan, Dunn, McCoy, Wallace and Chase

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1 AN ACT Relating to paying utility bills electronically; adding a
2 new section to chapter 35.21 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35.67
3 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35.92 RCW; adding a new section to
4 chapter 36.94 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 54.16 RCW; adding a
5 new section to chapter 57.08 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 80.28
6 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 80.36 RCW; and declaring an
7 emergency.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 35.21 RCW
10 to read as follows:

11 By July 1, 2005, a city or town that provides electric, natural
12 gas, water, or sewer services to retail customers must offer an
13 electronic payment option that its customers may use for payment of
14 bills for service provided through the utility. Electronic payment
15 options must be provided without additional fees or costs charged to
16 the customer.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 35.67 RCW
18 to read as follows:

1 By July 1, 2005, a city or town that provides sewer services to
2 retail customers must offer an electronic payment option that its
3 customers may use for payment of bills for service provided through the
4 utility. Electronic payment options must be provided without
5 additional fees or costs charged to the customer.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 35.92 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 By July 1, 2005, a city or town that provides electric, natural
9 gas, water, or sewer services to retail customers must offer an
10 electronic payment option that its customers may use for payment of
11 bills for service provided through the utility. Electronic payment
12 options must be provided without additional fees or costs charged to
13 the customer.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 36.94 RCW
15 to read as follows:

16 By July 1, 2005, a county that operates a sewerage or water system
17 must offer an electronic payment option that its retail customers may
18 use for payment of bills for service provided through the utility.
19 Electronic payment options must be provided without additional fees or
20 costs charged to the customer.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 54.16 RCW
22 to read as follows:

23 By July 1, 2005, a public utility district that provides electric,
24 water, or sewer services to retail customers must offer an electronic
25 payment option that its customers may use for payment of bills for
26 service provided through the district. Electronic payment options must
27 be provided without additional fees or costs charged to the customer.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 57.08 RCW
29 to read as follows:

30 By July 1, 2005, a district that operates a sewer or water system
31 must offer an electronic payment option that its retail customers may
32 use for payment of bills for service provided through the district.
33 Electronic payment options must be provided without additional fees or
34 costs charged to the customer.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 80.28 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 By July 1, 2005, a gas company, electrical company, or water
4 company that provides gas, electric, or water services to retail
5 customers must offer an electronic payment option that its retail
6 customers may use for payment of bills for service provided through the
7 company. Electronic payment options must be provided without
8 additional fees or costs charged to the customer.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 80.36 RCW
10 to read as follows:

11 By July 1, 2005, a telecommunications company that provides
12 telecommunications services to retail customers must offer an
13 electronic payment option that its retail customers may use for payment
14 of bills for service provided through the company. Electronic payment
15 options must be provided without additional fees or costs charged to
16 the customer.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** This act is necessary for the immediate
18 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
19 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
20 immediately.

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