
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6209

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2006 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Water, Energy & Environment (originally sponsored by Senator Jacobsen)

READ FIRST TIME 01/30/06.

1 AN ACT Relating to utility charges; and adding a new section to
2 chapter 35.92 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 35.92 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) A city or town providing residential gas, electric, or water
7 utility service under this chapter may require the following
8 information when an applicant applies for the service:

9 (a) The applicant's name, address, and telephone number, and an
10 alternative contact telephone number, if applicable, of the responsible
11 party at the service premises;

12 (b) The date the service is requested to be effective;

13 (c) The type of equipment to be served at the service premises;

14 (d) One source of identification. The applicant may choose from a
15 list, provided by the city or town, of at least five sources of
16 identification. The list must include a current driver's license or
17 other picture identification; and

18 (e) Any additional information the city or town may reasonably
19 require for billing or service.

1 (2) Where multiple individuals are liable for payment of a utility
2 charge, each responsible party shall provide acknowledgment of that
3 liability by signing a form provided by the utility. The utility may
4 allow up to thirty days for submittal of the signature, which may be
5 provided in person or by mail. If the acknowledgment is not provided
6 within thirty days, the utility may terminate services or be limited to
7 seeking payment from the individual who established the account.

8 (3) The city or town may not refuse to provide service to an
9 applicant or customer because there are outstanding amounts due from a
10 prior customer at the same premises, unless the city or town can
11 determine, based on objective evidence, that a fraudulent act is being
12 committed such that the applicant or customer is acting in cooperation
13 with the prior customer with the intent to avoid payment.

14 (4) The requirements of subsections (1) and (2) of this section
15 apply only to applicants seeking utility service after July 1, 2006.

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