

SUBJECT: Creating the Utilities Code

COMMITTEE: State Affairs— favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 12 ayes — Wolens, S. Turner, Carter, Counts, Craddick, Danburg, Hilbert, Hunter, Longoria, McCall, Ramsay, Stiles

0 nays

3 absent — Alvarado, Brimer, D. Jones

SENATE VOTE: On final passage, April 24 — 29-0

WITNESSES: (*On House companion bill, HB 1847 by McCall*):

For — None

Against — None

On — Carolyn Hall and Steven Collins, Texas Legislative Council

BACKGROUND : Under the Government Code, the Texas Legislative Council is required to make periodic revisions to Texas statutes to make them more accessible, understandable and usable without altering the sense, meaning or effect of the law. As part of this process, the Legislative Council reclassifies and rearranges statutes in a more logical order; employs a numbering system and format that will accommodate future expansion of the law; eliminates repealed, invalid and duplicative provisions; and improves the draftsmanship of the law.

DIGEST: SB 1751 would combine various Texas statutes relating to utilities into a Utilities Code. This would be a nonsubstantive revision of the Texas statutes relating to utilities, including the Public Utility Regulatory Act

The Texas Utilities Code would be divided into four sections: General Provisions, Public Utility Regulatory Act, Gas Regulation and Delivery of Utility Services.

SB 1751
House Research Organization
page 2

SB 1751 would not include any substantive revisions to the law. If a source statute was ambiguous and the ambiguity could not be resolved without making a substantive change, the ambiguity would be preserved.

SB 1751 would take effect September 1, 1997

NOTES:

SB 319 by Armbrister (Seidlits), enacted in 1995, recodified the Public Utility Regulatory Act.