

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 478

BY REPRESENTATIVES KNOX AND LARVADAIN

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Chapter 70 of Title 51 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised  
3 of R.S. 51:3301, relative to reimbursement for utility overcharges; to provide for  
4 definitions; to provide for reimbursement of overcharges by utilities; to provide for  
5 labeling; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. Chapter 70 of Title 51 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,  
8 comprised of R.S. 51:3301, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 CHAPTER 70. REIMBURSEMENT OF UTILITY OVERCHARGES

10 §3301. Utility overcharge reimbursement

11 A. For the purposes of this Chapter, the following terms have the following  
12 meanings:

13 (1) "Customer" means a person receiving services from a utility provider.

14 (2) "Overcharge" means any amount billed in excess of the lawful rate, tariff,  
15 or authorized charge.

16 (3) "Utility provider" means a provider of water, gas, or electric service that  
17 is regulated by the Public Service Commission or a local governmental subdivision  
18 or owned or operated by a local governmental subdivision.

19 B.(1) A utility provider that has overcharged a customer shall reimburse the  
20 amount overcharged to the customer in full within ninety calendar days after the  
21 overcharge is discovered or reasonably should have been discovered and shall be  
22 labeled as an overcharge reimbursement or similar description, unless otherwise  
23 ordered by the utility's regulator.

24 (2) If a customer has ended service with a utility provider, then the utility  
25 provider shall send the reimbursement to the customer's last known address,

1           provided in the former customer's account, within ninety calendar days after the  
 2           overcharge is discovered or reasonably should have been discovered and shall be  
 3           labeled as an overcharge reimbursement or similar description, unless otherwise  
 4           ordered by the utility's regulator.

5                     C. A utility provider shall label the reimbursement required by this Section  
 6                     as an overcharge reimbursement, unless otherwise ordered by the utility's regulator.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_