

Introduced by

Senators Wardner, Klein, Lyson

Representatives Dockter, N. Johnson, Nathe

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 49-04 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to the requirement that a public utility regulated by the public service
3 commission provide advance notification of ~~disconnection or termination~~discontinuance of
4 electric or gas service.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

6 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 49-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
7 and enacted as follows:

8 ~~— **Advance notification before disconnection of electric or gas service.**~~

9 ~~— Electric and gas utilities regulated by the public service commission must provide~~

10 ~~notification in writing at least ten days in advance to the customer, as well as to a designated~~

11 ~~third party if the customer provides an authorization for disclosure, before disconnection or~~

12 ~~termination of electric or gas service.~~

13 **Notification before discontinuance of utility service.**

14 1. A public utility shall provide notice to a customer of the utility's intention to discontinue
15 utility service for payment delinquency in accordance with commission rules.

16 2. A public utility shall provide notice to a third party designated by a customer of the
17 utility's intention to discontinue electric or natural gas service to the customer for
18 payment delinquency. The customer shall designate the third party on a form provided
19 by or approved by the public utility. The public utility may elect to provide notice to a
20 designated third party by mail or electronic means. Notice by mail must be made not
21 less than five days before discontinuance and notice by electronic means must be
22 made not less than three days before discontinuance. A public utility is immune from
23 civil liability for failing to provide notice or providing incorrect notice to a third party of
24 its intention to discontinue utility service to a customer.