

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 March 28, 2024

3 ENGROSSED HOUSE
4 BILL NO. 3863

By: Ford, Dollens, Swope,
Fugate, Hefner, and Munson
of the House

5 and

6 Thompson (Kristen) of the
7 Senate

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10 An Act relating to utilities; amending Section 1,
11 Chapter 171, O.S.L. 2023 (17 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section
12 180.12), which relates to exemptions; modifying who
may make certain determination; and providing an
effective date.

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15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

16 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 171, O.S.L.
17 2023 (17 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 180.12), is amended to read as
18 follows:

19 Section 180.12 A. A customer or applicant who has been
20 determined to be a victim of domestic violence, stalking, or
21 harassment, as defined in Section 109 of Title 43 of the Oklahoma
22 Statutes or Section 644 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, by any
23 of the following:

- 24 1. An existing protective order;

1 2. Law enforcement personnel; ~~or~~

2 3. A designated representative of a certified domestic violence
3 shelter or certified domestic violence program pursuant to Section
4 18p-6 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes; or

5 4. A designated representative of a domestic violence shelter
6 or domestic violence program operated by a federally recognized
7 Indian tribe,

8 shall be exempt from the public utility's initial credit and deposit
9 requirements as established by the public utility. This
10 determination shall be evidenced by submission of the certification
11 letter, provided in subsection B of this section, to the public
12 utility. The certification letter expires after ninety (90) days.

13 B. Certification Letter for Victim of Domestic Violence for
14 Waiver of Initial Utility Deposit:

15 IF A VALID PROTECTIVE ORDER IS ATTACHED TO THIS FORM, A CERTIFYING
16 AGENCY OR OFFICER DOES NOT NEED TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS.

17 This letter serves to certify that _____ (Name
18 of Applicant for Service) is a victim of domestic violence,
19 stalking, or harassment, as defined in Section 109 of Title 43 of
20 the Oklahoma Statutes or Section 644 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma
21 Statutes, and therefore has demonstrated satisfactory credit for the
22 purposes of establishing service. The requirement of initial
23 deposit shall be waived for the above named customer. (Only one
24 Certifying Agency is required.)

1 By my signature, I certify that the following Certifying Agency has
2 determined that, based on the information gathered at the time of
3 intake/assessment/provision of services, the above-named Applicant
4 reported experiences of domestic violence and was assessed to be a
5 victim of domestic violence.

6 Agency Name: _____

7 Contact Number: _____

8 Signature: _____

9 Printed Name: _____

10 Title: _____

11 Date: _____

12 By my signature I certify that I have personally responded to or
13 have confirmed via internal records that an officer of the
14 _____ Police Department has responded to an
15 incident occurring within the municipal boundaries of the
16 _____ (municipality) where the above-named
17 Applicant was reported to be a victim of domestic violence.

18 Department Representative Signature:
19 _____

20 Department Representative Printed Name:
21 _____

22 Badge Number (if applicable):
23 _____

24 Date: _____

1 This form expires ninety (90) days from the date of the signature of
2 the certifying individual.

3 C. The utility shall deem the certification letter and the
4 contents thereof as confidential and exempt from disclosure.

5 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

6 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS
7 March 28, 2024 - DO PASS
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