

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

HOUSE BILL 3863

By: Ford

AS INTRODUCED

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

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

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

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

1. An existing protective order;
2. Law enforcement personnel; ~~or~~

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

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

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

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

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

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

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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.

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