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## DIGEST

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HB 913 Reengrossed

2024 Regular Session

Selders

**Abstract:** Provides relative to transparency for utility bills.

Proposed law defines "housing provider"

Proposed law applies to housing providers that control utility accounts for residential properties occupied by tenants.

Proposed law states that a housing provider shall provide to a tenant a copy of the original utility bill for the residential property where they reside if all the following occur:

- (1) A tenant requests, in writing, to the housing provider a copy of the original utility bill.
- (2) A tenant provides identification that he is the current tenant in the residential property for which information is being requested.
- (3) A tenant states which method he would like to receive the bill, either by mail or email, and the corresponding information needed to fulfill the request.

Proposed law states that if a tenant satisfies the requirements in proposed law, a housing provider shall provide the information within 15 days of the request. After the initial request, a housing provider shall provide to the tenant, a copy of the original utility bill monthly, before payments of those bills are due.

Proposed law provides that a housing provider shall be fined not more than \$500 per violation for violating proposed law.

Proposed law allows a tenant or the attorney general to bring an action against a housing provider that violates proposed law. Further provides for penalties.

(Adds R.S. 51:2621 and 2622)

### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Commerce to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes to the title.

2. Clarify that a copy of the original utility bill is required.
3. Add violations, penalties, and civil remedies regarding housing providers that do not provide a copy of original utility bills pursuant to proposed law.