

SHB 1009 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Water, Energy & Environment

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 35.21 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) By July 1, 2008, a city or town that provides electric, natural
6 gas, water, or sewer services to retail customers must offer an
7 electronic payment option that its customers may use for payment of
8 bills for service provided through the utility. Additional fees or
9 costs charged to the customer may not exceed the actual cost of
10 providing an electronic payment option.

11 (2) The requirement under this section to provide an electronic
12 payment option by July 1, 2008, does not apply to a city or town that
13 provides electric, natural gas, water, or sewer services to less than
14 five thousand retail customer accounts.

15 (3) For the purposes of this section, "electronic payment option"
16 means any payment system, other than a system using transactions
17 originating by check, draft, or similar paper instrument, that is
18 conducted by telephone, computer, or similar communications device.
19 "Electronic payment option" includes on-line credit and debit card
20 payment systems, on-line banking and money-transfer systems, and
21 electronic fund transfers. "Electronic payment option" also includes
22 an internet-based method of payment that allows a customer, at the time
23 of payment, to access an internet web page and transmit text or data
24 controlling the amount of the payment, the date of payment, and the
25 account from which the payment will be made.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 35.67 RCW
27 to read as follows:

28 (1) By July 1, 2008, a city or town that provides sewer services to
29 retail customers must offer an electronic payment option that its

1 customers may use for payment of bills for service provided through the
2 utility. Additional fees or costs charged to the customer may not
3 exceed the actual cost of providing an electronic payment option.

4 (2) The requirement under this section to provide an electronic
5 payment option by July 1, 2008, does not apply to a city or town that
6 provides sewer services to less than five thousand retail customer
7 accounts.

8 (3) For the purposes of this section, "electronic payment option"
9 means any payment system, other than a system using transactions
10 originating by check, draft, or similar paper instrument, that is
11 conducted by telephone, computer, or similar communications device.
12 "Electronic payment option" includes on-line credit and debit card
13 payment systems, on-line banking and money-transfer systems, and
14 electronic fund transfers. "Electronic payment option" also includes
15 an internet-based method of payment that allows a customer, at the time
16 of payment, to access an internet web page and transmit text or data
17 controlling the amount of the payment, the date of payment, and the
18 account from which the payment will be made.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 35.92 RCW
20 to read as follows:

21 (1) By July 1, 2008, a city or town that provides electric, natural
22 gas, water, or sewer services to retail customers must offer an
23 electronic payment option that its customers may use for payment of
24 bills for service provided through the utility. Additional fees or
25 costs charged to the customer may not exceed the actual cost of
26 providing an electronic payment option.

27 (2) The requirement under this section to provide an electronic
28 payment option by July 1, 2008, does not apply to a city or town that
29 provides electric, natural gas, water, or sewer services to less than
30 five thousand retail customer accounts.

31 (3) For the purposes of this section, "electronic payment option"
32 means any payment system, other than a system using transactions
33 originating by check, draft, or similar paper instrument, that is
34 conducted by telephone, computer, or similar communications device.
35 "Electronic payment option" includes on-line credit and debit card
36 payment systems, on-line banking and money-transfer systems, and
37 electronic fund transfers. "Electronic payment option" also includes

1 an internet-based method of payment that allows a customer, at the time
2 of payment, to access an internet web page and transmit text or data
3 controlling the amount of the payment, the date of payment, and the
4 account from which the payment will be made.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 36.94 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) By July 1, 2008, a county that operates a sewerage or water
8 system must offer an electronic payment option that its retail
9 customers may use for payment of bills for service provided through the
10 utility. Additional fees or costs charged to the customer may not
11 exceed the actual cost of providing an electronic payment option.

12 (2) The requirement under this section to provide an electronic
13 payment option by July 1, 2008, does not apply to a county that
14 operates a sewerage or water system with less than five thousand retail
15 customer accounts.

16 (3) For the purposes of this section, "electronic payment option"
17 means any payment system, other than a system using transactions
18 originating by check, draft, or similar paper instrument, that is
19 conducted by telephone, computer, or similar communications device.
20 "Electronic payment option" includes on-line credit and debit card
21 payment systems, on-line banking and money-transfer systems, and
22 electronic fund transfers. "Electronic payment option" also includes
23 an internet-based method of payment that allows a customer, at the time
24 of payment, to access an internet web page and transmit text or data
25 controlling the amount of the payment, the date of payment, and the
26 account from which the payment will be made.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 54.16 RCW
28 to read as follows:

29 (1) By July 1, 2008, a public utility district that provides
30 electric, water, or sewer services to retail customers must offer an
31 electronic payment option that its customers may use for payment of
32 bills for service provided through the district. Additional fees or
33 costs charged to the customer may not exceed the actual cost of
34 providing an electronic payment option.

35 (2) The requirement under this section to provide an electronic

1 payment option by July 1, 2008, does not apply to a public utility
2 district that provides electric, water, or sewer services to less than
3 five thousand retail customer accounts.

4 (3) For the purposes of this section, "electronic payment option"
5 means any payment system, other than a system using transactions
6 originating by check, draft, or similar paper instrument, that is
7 conducted by telephone, computer, or similar communications device.
8 "Electronic payment option" includes on-line credit and debit card
9 payment systems, on-line banking and money-transfer systems, and
10 electronic fund transfers. "Electronic payment option" also includes
11 an internet-based method of payment that allows a customer, at the time
12 of payment, to access an internet web page and transmit text or data
13 controlling the amount of the payment, the date of payment, and the
14 account from which the payment will be made.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 57.08 RCW
16 to read as follows:

17 (1) By July 1, 2008, a district that operates a sewer or water
18 system must offer an electronic payment option that its retail
19 customers may use for payment of bills for service provided through the
20 district. Additional fees or costs charged to the customer may not
21 exceed the actual cost of providing an electronic payment option.

22 (2) The requirement under this section to provide an electronic
23 payment option by July 1, 2008, does not apply to a district that
24 operates a sewer or water system with less than five thousand retail
25 customer accounts.

26 (3) For the purposes of this section, "electronic payment option"
27 means any payment system, other than a system using transactions
28 originating by check, draft, or similar paper instrument, that is
29 conducted by telephone, computer, or similar communications device.
30 "Electronic payment option" includes on-line credit and debit card
31 payment systems, on-line banking and money-transfer systems, and
32 electronic fund transfers. "Electronic payment option" also includes
33 an internet-based method of payment that allows a customer, at the time
34 of payment, to access an internet web page and transmit text or data
35 controlling the amount of the payment, the date of payment, and the
36 account from which the payment will be made.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 80.28 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 (1) By July 1, 2008, a gas company, electrical company, or water
4 company that provides gas, electric, or water services to retail
5 customers must offer an electronic payment option that its retail
6 customers may use for payment of bills for service provided through the
7 company. Additional fees or costs charged to the customer may not
8 exceed the actual cost of providing an electronic payment option.

9 (2) The requirement under this section to provide an electronic
10 payment option by July 1, 2008, does not apply to a gas company,
11 electrical company, or water company that provides gas, electric, or
12 water services to less than five thousand retail customer accounts.

13 (3) For the purposes of this section, "electronic payment option"
14 means any payment system, other than a system using transactions
15 originating by check, draft, or similar paper instrument, that is
16 conducted by telephone, computer, or similar communications device.
17 "Electronic payment option" includes on-line credit and debit card
18 payment systems, on-line banking and money-transfer systems, and
19 electronic fund transfers. "Electronic payment option" also includes
20 an internet-based method of payment that allows a customer, at the time
21 of payment, to access an internet web page and transmit text or data
22 controlling the amount of the payment, the date of payment, and the
23 account from which the payment will be made.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 80.36 RCW
25 to read as follows:

26 (1) By July 1, 2008, a telecommunications company that provides
27 telecommunications services to retail customers must offer an
28 electronic payment option that its retail customers may use for payment
29 of bills for service provided through the company. Additional fees or
30 costs charged to the customer may not exceed the actual cost of
31 providing an electronic payment option.

32 (2) The requirement under this section to provide an electronic
33 payment option by July 1, 2008, does not apply to a telecommunications
34 company that provides telecommunications services to less than five
35 thousand retail customer accounts.

36 (3) For the purposes of this section, "electronic payment option"
37 means any payment system, other than a system using transactions

1 originating by check, draft, or similar paper instrument, that is
2 conducted by telephone, computer, or similar communications device.
3 "Electronic payment option" includes on-line credit and debit card
4 payment systems, on-line banking and money-transfer systems, and
5 electronic fund transfers. "Electronic payment option" also includes
6 an internet-based method of payment that allows a customer, at the time
7 of payment, to access an internet web page and transmit text or data
8 controlling the amount of the payment, the date of payment, and the
9 account from which the payment will be made.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** This act is necessary for the immediate
11 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
12 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
13 immediately."

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By Committee on Water, Energy & Environment

14 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "electronically;" strike the
15 remainder of the title and insert "adding a new section to chapter
16 35.21 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35.67 RCW; adding a new
17 section to chapter 35.92 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 36.94
18 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 54.16 RCW; adding a new section to
19 chapter 57.08 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 80.28 RCW; adding a
20 new section to chapter 80.36 RCW; and declaring an emergency."

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