

Sixty-third
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2174

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 discontinuance of electric or gas service.

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

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

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

- 8 1. A public utility shall provide notice to a customer of the utility's intention to discontinue
9 utility service for payment delinquency in accordance with commission rules.
- 10 2. A public utility shall provide notice to a third party designated by a customer of the
11 utility's intention to discontinue electric or natural gas service to the customer for
12 payment delinquency. The customer shall designate the third party on a form provided
13 by or approved by the public utility. The public utility may elect to provide notice to a
14 designated third party by mail or electronic means. Notice by mail must be made not
15 less than five days before discontinuance and notice by electronic means must be
16 made not less than three days before discontinuance. A public utility is immune from
17 civil liability for failing to provide notice or providing incorrect notice to a third party of
18 its intention to discontinue utility service to a customer.