

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

4 HOUSE BILL 3863

 By: Ford and **Dollens**

7 AS INTRODUCED

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

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

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 171, O.S.L.
15 2023 (17 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 180.12), is amended to read as
16 follows:

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

- 22 1. An existing protective order;
23 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.)

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.

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7 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES, dated 02/22/2024 - DO
8 PASS, As Coauthored.

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