

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 58th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB1049
Version:	Engrossed
Request Number:	
Author:	Wallace, Hilbert
Date:	4/20/2021
Impact:	Please see previous summary of this measure

Research Analysis

Engrossed SB1049 creates the February 2021 Unregulated Utility Consumer Protection Act. The measure authorizes the Oklahoma Development Finance Authority to provide a pooled loan program for financing of qualified costs incurred by unregulated utilities, for the purpose of mitigating extreme purchase costs and extraordinary costs to customers of the unregulated utilities related to the February 2021 extreme weather event.

An unregulated utility may submit an application to the Authority for financing pursuant to this act. The Authority, with assistance from the Public Utility Division of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, would determine qualified costs actually and lawfully incurred by the utility which were directly related to the February 2021 extreme weather. Approval or disapproval would be issued by the Authority in writing, and provided to the Governor, President Pro Tempore of the Senate and Speaker of the House. Disapproval notices must include reasoning for rejection, and an opportunity for the utility to amend its application.

The bill creates the Unregulated Utility Consumer Protection Fund and authorizes loans from this fund to unregulated utilities, in amounts not to exceed the approved qualified costs. Loans would be made pursuant to notes, bonds, revenue bonds or other appropriate forms of evidence of indebtedness. Terms of these loans may be up to 30 years, at the discretion of the Authority. An unregulated utility which receives a loan under this act would then base customer charges mitigated pursuant to the act on customers' monthly bills as a separate line item. The Authority would be authorized to take a pledge of revenues from the utility and a security interest in property or revenues of the utility.

Prepared By: Sean Webster

Fiscal Analysis

The measure is currently under review and impact information will be completed.

Prepared By: Mark Tygret

Other Considerations

None.

