Bill Summary

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature

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Bill Analysis

SB 1332 creates the Oklahoma Electric Choice and Competition Act. The measure directs the Corporation Commission to permit commercial and industrial customers of electric utilities to choose a retail electric supplier and directs the Commission to promulgate rules providing for a fair and orderly restructuring process for the sale and purchase of electric generation service. The measure requires electric utilities to provide open access over their transmission and distribution systems and to unbundle the rates charged for generation, transmission, and distribution services. The measure prohibits the transition from adversely affecting customers. The measure further require the Commission to develop a process for retail electric suppliers to confirm and document a customer's consent to release data, but prohibits such a process from requiring onerous signature or other requirements. Electric utilities may only receive metering data upon the consent of the consumer. Additionally, the Commission is directed to develop a comprehensive customer education program to ensure that customers have access to accurate information about their ability to directly access the competitive market.

The measure prohibits any individual from engaging in the business of a retail electric supplier unless he or she holds a license issued by the Commission. Applicants shall submit a standardized, written application developed by the Commission. The Commission is directed to develop a procedure to process the applications as well as financial security requirements. The measure provides that electric utilities may divest their generation assets to an unaffiliated entity or to an unregulated affiliate. Once a competitive market for electric generation service is implemented, the measure prohibits electric utilities from using assets to provide basic generation service to its commercial and industrial customers or recovering the costs of generation from its provision of basic generation service to commercial and industrial customers. Such utilities are also directed to submit a compliance plan to the Commission.

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