

House Bill 814

In The House

February 19, 1981

Introduced and referred
to Committee on Business
and Industry.

April 23, 1981

Died in Committee.

HOUSE BILL NO. 814

INTRODUCED BY

Listoria Russell Napa
Richard E. Manning Teague Meyer

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO REQUIRE BILLING FOR WATER AND SEWER USE TO BE BASED UPON ACTUAL USE WHEN THE USE IS METERED, EXCEPT UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS; PROHIBITING UTILITIES FROM REQUIRING A CUSTOMER TO HAVE A WATER OR SEWER METER; AMENDING SECTION 69-3-201, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 69-3-201, MCA, is amended to read:

"69-3-201. Utilities to provide adequate service at reasonable charges -- water and sewage metering requirements. (1) Every public utility is required to furnish reasonably adequate service and facilities. The charge made by any public utility for any heat, light, power, water, telegraph, or telephone service produced, transmitted, delivered, or furnished or for any service to be rendered as or in connection with any public utility shall be reasonable and just, and every unjust and unreasonable charge is prohibited and declared unlawful.

(2) (a) Whenever a water meter is in use, water and sewer charges shall be based on actual monthly water use readings. The requirements of subsection (2)(a) are suspended for as long as the reading of meters remains

impracticable due to an emergency or major disaster or severe weather conditions.

(b) No customer of any utility may be required to have a water or sewer meter. A customer who wants a meter may obtain one by accepting the offer of the utility serving him to install a meter."

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