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State of Texas  
House of Representatives  
SYLVESTER TURNER  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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May 31, 2007

Okay for Distribution

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sylvester Turner".

Rep. Sylvester Turner

The Honorable Rick Perry  
Governor  
Room 2S.1  
State Capitol  
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Governor Perry:

AARP recently requested that you call a special session to reform electric utility policy in Texas. The letter referenced failed legislation and proposed that the Legislature needs to address issues with the deregulated electricity market. After a long and emotional regular session I believe that every member of the Legislature- myself included- is tired. However, as a Representative of the people of House District 139 I must support AARP's call for an immediate special session.

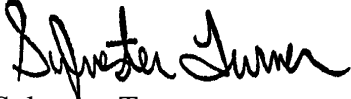
My constituents demand change in electric utility policy. The single most common request that my office receives is for assistance with electricity service. Electricity rates are too high and families in my district cannot afford for their bills to go any higher. Medically needy Texans need protection from disconnection. Elderly customers, who often rely on fixed incomes, need these reforms most of all. Simply put, the current electric utility scheme does not adequately protect the consumer.

There is also a looming concern that the demand for electricity is growing at a faster rate than the growth in generation capacity. That possibility threatens not only residential consumers but also the vitality of Texas' economy. The nation watched in 2000 and 2001 as California suffered from blackouts and it is imperative that Texas does everything in its power to prevent such an occurrence here.

The 80th Regular Session ended without any legislation to assist residential consumers. The bipartisan compromise bill, Senate Bill 482, passed the Senate and would have overwhelmingly passed in the House if not for a technical error. I believe that the Legislature has the will to codify consumer protections.

For the sake of the citizens of Texas, please consider this request and the effect that two more years without electric utility reform will have on Texas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sylvester Turner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sylvester Turner  
House District 139

cc: All members of the Texas Legislature