

2022 -- H 7476

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Introduced By: Representatives Morales, Caldwell, Kazarian, Solomon, Potter, Kennedy,
C Lima, Giraldo, S Lima, and Shallcross Smith

Date Introduced: February 16, 2022

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 39-1 of the General Laws entitled "Public Utilities Commission" is
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **39-1-63. Utility termination moratorium period.**

4 The commission shall amend its rules and regulations governing the termination of
5 residential electric and gas service as set forth in 810-RICR-10-00-1, and any similar regulation of
6 the commission, so that the utility termination moratorium period shall mean the period of time
7 between 12:01 a.m. on November 1 and 11:59 p.m. on May 1 of each year.

8 Provided, this section shall not nullify or reduce any extension of the suspension of service
9 terminations and collection actions during the COVID-19 emergency already authorized or which
10 may be authorized by the commission pursuant to "Docket No. 5022 - Suspension of Service
11 Terminations and Certain Collections Activities During the COVID-19 Emergency."

12 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

1 The act would direct the public utilities commission to amend its regulations by extending
2 the utility termination moratorium period on electricity and gas from April 15 to May 1 of each
3 year. This act would not nullify or reduce any extension of the suspension of service terminations
4 and collection actions during the COVID-19 emergency already authorized or which may be
5 authorized by the commission pursuant to "Docket No. 5022 - Suspension of Service Terminations
6 and Certain Collections Activities During the COVID-19 Emergency."

7 This act would take effect upon passage.

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