S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

S. 7260 A. 9824

S E N A T E - A S S E M B L Y

April 12, 2016

IN SENATE -- Introduced by Sen. LAVALLE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Energy and Telecommunications

IN ASSEMBLY -- Introduced by M. of A. THIELE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Consumer Affairs and Protection

AN ACT to amend the public service law, in relation to providing applicant identification for applications of service

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 31 of the public service law, as added by chapter 713 of the laws of 1981, is amended to read as follows:

1. Every gas corporation, electric corporation or municipality shall provide residential service upon the oral or written request of an applicant, provided that the commission may require that requests for service be in writing under circumstances as it deems necessary and proper as set forth by regulation, and provided further that the applicant:

(a) makes full payment for residential utility service provided to a prior account in his OR HER name; or

(b) agrees to make payments under a deferred payment plan of any amounts due for service to a prior account in his OR HER name and makes a down payment based on criteria to be established by the commission. No such down payment shall exceed one-half of any money due from an applicant for residential utility service, or three months average billing, whichever is less; or

(c) is a recipient of public assistance, supplemental security income or additional state payments pursuant to the social services law, or is an applicant for such assistance, income or payments, and the utility corporation or the municipality receives payment from, or is notified of the applicant's eligibility for utility payments by the social services official of the social services district in which such person resides for amounts due for service to a prior account in the applicant's name,

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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together with guarantee of future payments to the extent authorized by the social services law; OR

(D) MAY BE REQUIRED TO SHOW PROPER PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION SUCH AS A CURRENT AND VALID PHOTO IDENTIFICATION OR A COPY OF A CURRENT UTILITY BILL, BANK STATEMENT, GOVERNMENT CHECK, PAYCHECK, OR OTHER GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT THAT SHOWS THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE APPLICANT.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.