

# STATE OF NEW YORK

2353

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

January 24, 2019

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

AN ACT to amend the public service law and the state finance law, in relation to establishing the furloughed or non-pay federal workers revolving loan program and fund; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The public service law is amended by adding a new section  
2 66-p to read as follows:

3 § 66-p. Furloughed or non-pay federal workers loan program. 1. The  
4 commission shall create a furloughed or non-pay federal workers revol-  
5 ving loan program in order to provide zero percent interest loans to  
6 residential electric and natural gas customers who have been either  
7 furloughed or designated non-pay federal employees due to a period of a  
8 lapse in discretionary appropriations by the federal government in order  
9 to assist such customers in paying their electric and gas bills.

10 2. (a) The commission may make, upon application duly made, up to the  
11 amounts available by appropriation, loans for the payment of electric  
12 and gas bills by eligible customers.

13 (b) The commission shall have the power to make such rules and regu-  
14 lations as may be necessary and proper to effectuate the purposes of  
15 this section.

16 3. (a) Application for loans may be made by residential electric and  
17 natural gas customers who have been either furloughed or designated  
18 non-pay federal employees due to a period of a lapse in discretionary  
19 appropriations by the federal government.

20 (b) Every application shall be in a form acceptable to the commission  
21 and shall require documentation demonstrating financial need and that  
22 the applicant has been furloughed or designated non-pay as a result of a

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

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1 period of a lapse in discretionary appropriations by the federal govern-  
2 ment.

3 § 2. The state finance law is amended by adding a new section 99-ff to  
4 read as follows:

5 § 99-ff. Furloughed or non-pay federal workers revolving loan fund. 1.  
6 There is hereby established in the joint custody of the comptroller and  
7 the public service commission a fund to be known as the "furloughed or  
8 non-pay federal worker revolving loan fund". Such fund shall consist of  
9 moneys made available pursuant to appropriation and any other sources in  
10 order to provide zero percent interest loans to residential electric and  
11 natural gas customers who have been either furloughed or designated  
12 non-pay federal employees pursuant to section sixty-six-p of the public  
13 service law.

14 2. The fund shall consist of all moneys appropriated for its purpose,  
15 all moneys transferred to such fund pursuant to law, and all moneys  
16 required by this section or any other law to be paid into or credited to  
17 this fund, including all moneys received by the fund or donated to it,  
18 payments of principal on loans made from the fund, and any interest  
19 earnings which may accrue from the investment or reinvestment of moneys  
20 from the fund.

21 3. Moneys of the fund, when allocated, shall be available to the  
22 public service commission to make loans as provided in section sixty-  
23 six-p of the public service law. Up to five percent of the moneys of the  
24 fund may be used to pay the expenses, including personal service and  
25 maintenance and operation, in connection with the administration of such  
26 loans.

27 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be  
28 deemed repealed one year after it shall have become a law.