STATE OF NEW YORK

5165

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 11, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. MONTESANO, LAVINE, RA, ABINANTI, McDONOUGH -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. BRABENEC -- read once and referred to the Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions

AN ACT to amend the public service law, in relation to requiring the public service commission retain an independent auditor to conduct audits of private water utility companies prior to and after rate changes are approved by the public service commission

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

Section 1. Subdivision 10 of section 89-c of the public service law is amended by adding a new paragraph (b-1) to read as follows:

(b-1) Prior to the approval by the commission of a change by a private water utility company in any rate or charge, or in any form of contract or agreement or any rule or regulation relating to any rate, charge or service, or in any general privilege or facility, the commissioner shall retain a third-party auditor to conduct an audit of such private water utility company and provide his or her findings to the commission in writing. The third-party auditor shall not be affiliated with the commission or with any member of the public service commission. In the event of approval by the commission of any such change by a private water utility company in rate or charge, or in any form of contract or agreement or any rule or regulation relating to any rate, charge or service, or in any general privilege or facility, the independent auditor shall conduct a second audit of the private water utility company one year after the change takes effect. The commission shall publish the results of all such audits on its website.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

LBD07246-01-1