STATE OF NEW YORK

4180

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 2, 2021

Introduced by Sen. COMRIE -- 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, in relation to requiring telephone companies to alert customers to replace telephone backup battery units and to provide one backup battery unit to each customer every three years

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

Section 1. The public service law is amended by adding a new section 104 to read as follows:

§ 104. Backup telephone battery units. The commission, consistent with federal law, shall require any regulated telephone corporation providing facilities-based, fixed voice service that is not line-powered by the provider, and is offered as a residential service, to provide such customers with a biennial notice detailing the need to replace their backup battery units, that provide a power solution for 911 emergency access in the event of residential power loss, when such units reach the end of their usable life, and provide one backup battery unit every three years, or at a rate of time to be determined by the commission that ensures 911 emergency access for twenty-four hours in the event of residential power loss, at the customer's option and free of charge. The commission shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement this section.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law.

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

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