STATE OF NEW YORK

4234

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 6, 2023

Introduced by Sen. HINCHEY -- 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 the finality of certain utility charges and the contents of utility bills

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

Section 1. Section 41 of the public service law is amended by adding a new subdivision 4 to read as follows:

4. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no utility corporation or municipality may charge a residential customer for gas or electric service which was rendered more than two months prior to the mailing of the first bill to the customer for such service unless the failure of the corporation or municipality to bill sooner was not due to the negligence or neglect of the corporation or municipality or was due to the culpable conduct of the customer.

§ 2. The public service law is amended by adding a new section 41-a to read as follows:

§ 41-a. Finality of charges; non-residential customers. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no utility corporation or municipality may charge a non-residential customer for gas or electric service which was rendered more than two months prior to the mailing of the first bill to the customer for such service unless the failure of the corporation or municipality to bill sooner was not due to the negligence or neglect of the corporation or municipality or was due to the culpable conduct of the customer.

§ 3. Section 44 of the public service law is amended by adding a new subdivision 7 to read as follows:

7. As part of every billing, the utility corporation or municipality shall provide both in graph and written form, for the prior two years of the customer or the prior customers at the same address, the monthly

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

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usage of the customer, the monthly unit charges for usage, and the monthly billing charge amount to the customer. This requirement shall apply to both residential and non-residential customers.

§ 4. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeeding the date upon which it shall have become a law.