STATE OF NEW YORK

10214

IN SENATE

May 6, 2026

Introduced by Sen. BOTTCHER -- 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 requirements for the approval of any major rate change

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

Section 1. Subdivision 12 of section 66 of the public service law is amended by adding a new paragraph (n) to read as follows:

(n) (i) The commission shall, in their examination of any filing by a utility that would result in a major change in rates or charges, in addition to any other requirements of this chapter, consider the ratepayer affordability of the filed schedule of rates or charges, with a focus on cumulative rate impacts, the interests of low- and middle-income utility customers, and minimizing residential energy burden.

(ii) The commission, upon the approval of any major change in rates or charges, shall include in any approving order and make public on its website, a written summary of the specific actions taken by the commission or department during the rate case or hearing to promote ratepayer affordability, as identified in subparagraph (i) of this paragraph. Such summary shall include a detailed description of the specific actions and strategies taken by the commission or department during the rate case or hearing to address each of the required items, an evaluation of the effectiveness or success of such actions, and any information demonstrating such effectiveness or success. If the approving order for any major change in rates or charges includes a multi-year rate plan, the information required pursuant to this paragraph shall be provided for each rate year individually and as an overview for the rate plan as a whole.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall have become a law and shall not affect any proceedings relating to a major change in rates or charges initiated on or before such date.

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

LBD15646-01-6