

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9300

To amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 so that procedures relating to termination of electric service provide that such service may not be terminated during any extreme heat weather event or extreme cold weather event, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 15, 2022

Ms. DELBENE (for herself and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 so that procedures relating to termination of electric service provide that such service may not be terminated during any extreme heat weather event or extreme cold weather event, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Preventing Unneces-
5 sary Deaths During Life-Threatening Events Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXTREME HEAT AND EXTREME COLD WEATHER**
2 **EVENTS.**

3 Section 115(g) of the Public Utility Regulatory Poli-
4 cies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2625(g)) is amended—

5 (1) by inserting “, subject to paragraph (4)”
6 after “nonregulated electric utility which provide
7 that”;

8 (2) in paragraph (2)—

9 (A) by inserting “electric service may not
10 be terminated” before “during any period”;

11 (B) by striking “installments,” and insert-
12 ing “installments.”;

13 (C) by striking “such service may not be
14 terminated.”; and

15 (D) by redesignating subparagraphs (A)
16 and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively;

17 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as
18 subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively;

19 (4) by striking “The procedures for termination
20 of service” and inserting the following:

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The procedures for termi-
22 nation of service”; and

23 (5) by striking “Such procedures shall take into
24 account the need to include reasonable provisions for
25 elderly and handicapped consumers.” and inserting
26 the following:

1 “(2) ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED CON-
2 SUMERS.—Procedures described in paragraph (1)
3 shall take into account the need to include reason-
4 able provisions for elderly and handicapped con-
5 sumers.

6 “(3) EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS.—For pur-
7 poses of paragraph (1)(B), any period of an extreme
8 heat weather event or extreme cold weather event, as
9 determined by the State regulatory authority (with
10 respect to an electric utility for which it has rate-
11 making authority) or the nonregulated electric util-
12 ity, shall be considered to be a period when termi-
13 nation of service to an electric consumer would be
14 especially dangerous to health.

15 “(4) LIMITATION.—Procedures described in
16 paragraph (1) may authorize temporary suspension
17 of electric service to specific areas as required for
18 the safe operation and maintenance of the infra-
19 structure of the applicable electric utility, including
20 to reduce the risk of fires caused by such infrastruc-
21 ture.

22 “(5) UPDATED PROCEDURES.—Procedures de-
23 scribed in paragraph (1) shall be updated, as nec-
24 essary, by the State regulatory authority (with re-
25 spect to electric utilities for which it has ratemaking

1 authority) or by the nonregulated electric utility at
2 least once every 10 years, including to reflect the
3 best available science with respect to changing cli-
4 mate conditions.”.

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