



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

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Energy and Technology Committee February 24, 2015

Testimony in support of **HB 5281 - AN ACT CAPPING THE FIXED CUSTOMER CHARGE FOR THE RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS OF ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES.**

Senator Doyle, Representative Reed, Senator Formica, Representative Ackert, and the entire membership of the Energy and Technology Committee. Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of *H.B. 5281 AN ACT CAPPING THE FIXED CUSTOMER CHARGE FOR THE RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS OF ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES*. This bill seeks to cap electric distribution companies' residential fixed customer charge.

Consumers across the state have faced unfair electric rate increases. It is imperative that the General Assembly take appropriate action to address the way in which these rates are ultimately set. This bill goes a long way in ensuring that the interests of all consumers are clearly considered in the rate setting process by enacting a rate cap.

This rate cap would apply to the distribution company's residential fixed customer charge and would help to eliminate the upward trend that all of our electric bill rates are following. However, I would also note that the bill would have a provision for the cap to be raised in direct correlation with inflation. When raising the cap, however, legislative approval would be required.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Prasad Srinivasan
State Representative, 31st District