

Shaiken, Benjamin

From: AARP <aarpwebact@action.aarp.org> on behalf of Toni Criscuolo
<aarpwebact@action.aarp.org>
Sent: Saturday, February 21, 2015 7:55 AM
To: ETTestimony
Subject: Testimony in favor of SB 573, banning variable rate electric contracts!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Feb 21, 2015

CT General Assembly Energy and Technology Committee Committee Members CT

Dear CT General Assembly Energy and Technology Committee Members,

I'm writing to voice my support for Senate Bill 573, An Act Concerning Variable Electric Rates. We need to protect electric consumers in Connecticut by banning variable rate contracts.

Predatory variable electric contracts are a bad deal for consumers like me. All of the risks are born by the customer, not the third party suppliers. In fact, suppliers can raise variable rates from month to month by 25% without notice. Additionally if I cancel my contract early i am subject to penalty, and the same does not hold true for the suppliers. I urge you to consider capping residential electric rates and ending the predatory and fraudulent variable rate contract rates. You will hear many talking points. I can only add that you are the only ones the citizenry can turn to to protect us from greedy utility companies.

We are asked to conserve and we do. We are encouraged to shop rates and we did. It is the UI and CLP who are never satisfied with their profits. If their profits drop for 5 minutes, they are in for a rate hike. As private, capitalist ventures, they are subject to the variations of the market and must accept the risks as well as the opportunity for profit. STOP CORPORATE SOCIALISM. STOP PROTECTING CORPORATIONS AT THE EXPENSE OF TAXPAYERS.

Electricity is not a luxury; it is a necessity for my health and safety. Please support Senate Bill 573.

Sincerely,

Ms. Toni Criscuolo
223 Townsend Ave
New Haven, CT 06512-3960