

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 18-116—HB 5402

Banking Committee

AN ACT CONCERNING THE REPORTING OF RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS' NONPAYMENT FOR CERTAIN UTILITY AND TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES

SUMMARY: This act increases, from 60 to 120 days, how long certain utilities must wait after a residential customer becomes delinquent before they may report the customer's nonpayment to credit rating agencies. Under the act, the affected utilities are electric distribution companies (i.e., Eversource and United Illuminating); gas or water companies; gas registrants; and municipal utilities that furnish electric, gas, or water service.

The act correspondingly changes the content of the notice the law already requires such companies and registrants to send to their customers at least 30 days before making such a report, to reflect the increase.

Under existing law, unchanged by the act, telephone companies and certified telecommunications providers may report residential customers' nonpayment for service to credit rating agencies if their customers are more than 60 days delinquent and certain other conditions are met.

By law, a "credit rating agency" is any person who assembles and evaluates information about a consumer's credit standing and credit worthiness to furnish third parties with credit reports for monetary fees and dues (CGS § 36a-695).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2018