OLR Bill Analysis
HB 5687

**AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRIC SUPPLIER ELECTRIC GENERATION SERVICE RATES AND CUSTOMER BILLS.**

**SUMMARY**

This bill generally allows customers who negotiate a decreased electric generation service rate with their retail electric supplier to begin receiving service under the decreased rate before it appears on their electric bills. Existing law requires residential customers’ electric bills to show any change to their supplier’s generation rate that will be effective in the next billing cycle (CGS § 16-245d(a)(2)). (It does not specify, but presumably the bill’s provisions supersede the existing law.)

Under the bill, if a customer and supplier agree to a decreased rate, either by changing the terms of their existing contract or in the course of negotiating a contract renewal, the decreased rate may not be required to appear on the customer’s electric bill as long as the following conditions are met:

1. the supplier may not charge the customer a rate that is greater than the rate on the customer’s bill;

2. the supplier must submit the decreased rate to the customer’s electric distribution company (EDC, i.e., Eversource or United Illuminating) within three days after making the agreement with the customer; and

3. the EDC must include the decreased rate on the next electric bill that it sends to the customer.

The law, unchanged by the bill, requires suppliers to provide residential customers with a written notice of any change to their rate 30 to 60 days before the term of their fixed rate expires (CGS § 16-
245o(g)(1)).

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND

Related Bill

sHB 7155, reported favorably by the Energy and Technology Committee, (1) establishes certain requirements for retail suppliers’ telesales and face-to-face marketing practices, (2) requires a supplier to obtain a residential customer’s affirmative and express consent before renewing the customer’s contract, and (3) requires customers who do not provide such consent to be placed on the standard service generation rate when their contract expires.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Energy and Technology Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea 16 Nay 8 (03/19/2019)