



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Proposed Bill No. 5636

LCO No. 2555



Referred to Committee on ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by:

REP. D'AGOSTINO, 91st Dist.

REP. QUINN, 82nd Dist.

REP. LEEPER, 132nd Dist.

REP. LINEHAN, 103rd Dist.

REP. MCCARTHY VAHEY, 133rd Dist.

REP. HUGHES, 135th Dist.

REP. KEITT, 134th Dist.

AN ACT CONCERNING VEGETATION MANAGEMENT BY UTILITIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 That section 16-234 of the general statutes be amended to: (1) Codify
2 the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority's orders in Docket No. 18-12-
3 25 and apply them to all electric distribution companies; (2) require
4 utilities to obtain a permit from the Division of Forestry of the
5 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection before pruning or
6 removing a tree or shrub located in a public right-of-way, except in
7 emergencies; (3) require that a licensed arborist agree with any
8 determination that a tree or part of a tree is dead, extensively decayed
9 or structurally weak, except when such tree or part of a tree is fallen,
10 split, uprooted, in contact with a live wire or has visible signs of burning;
11 (4) require utilities to provide stump removal and replacement planting
12 services for trees removed from private property; and (5) establish fines
13 for utilities that do not comply with such provisions.

Statement of Purpose:

To (1) codify the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority's orders in Docket No. 18-12-25, (2) require utilities to get a permit from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection before tree trimming in public rights-of-way, (3) require an arborist to agree with utility determinations that a tree is hazardous, (4) require utilities to provide stump removal and replacement planting services, and (5) establish fines for violations.