



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

**Committee Bill No. 5641**

LCO No. 4929



Referred to Committee on ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by:  
(ET)

**AN ACT CONCERNING NOTIFICATION OF UTILITY SERVICE  
TERMINATIONS AT RENTAL PROPERTIES.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) Each gas company and  
2 electric distribution company, as such terms are defined in section 16-1  
3 of the general statutes, shall, upon request of a person who certifies that  
4 such person is the owner of a residential dwelling to which the company  
5 provides service that is billed to a person other than such requestor,  
6 agree to:

7 (1) Transfer gas or electric service, as applicable, to such requestor's  
8 name, whenever the company intends to terminate service to such  
9 dwelling absent a request made pursuant to this section;

10 (2) Notify such requestor by United States mail not later than seventy-  
11 two hours after any such transfer of service; and

12 (3) Pay compensation to such requestor for damage that results from  
13 a termination of service to the dwelling, including, but not limited to,  
14 damage caused by burst pipes, if the company fails to transfer service in  
15 accordance with such request.

16 (b) Any request made pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall  
17 be in writing in a form prescribed by the Public Utilities Regulatory  
18 Authority. Such request shall include (1) a certification that the  
19 requestor is the owner of the residential dwelling that is the subject of  
20 the request; and (2) the mailing address of the requestor that shall be  
21 used by such gas or electric distribution company, as applicable, to mail  
22 notice in accordance with subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section.

23 (c) Any requestor who seeks compensation pursuant to subdivision  
24 (3) of subsection (a) of this section shall send a demand for  
25 compensation in writing to the applicable gas or electric distribution  
26 company or companies, together with any evidence such requestor  
27 chooses to provide. Any company that receives such demand shall, not  
28 later than thirty days after receipt, either pay the compensation  
29 demanded or deny liability.

30 (d) No gas company or electric distribution company may disclose to  
31 the requestor the reason the company intends to terminate service  
32 absent a request made pursuant to this section.

33 (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require such  
34 requestor to pay an account balance or arrearage of any customer who  
35 was billed for service at such residential dwelling before the transfer of  
36 service to such requestor's name.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2023	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To enable property owners to protect their leased property from damage caused by a utility disconnection.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*

Co-Sponsors: REP. FERRARO C., 117th Dist.

H.B. 5641