

By the Committee on Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; and Senators Siplin and Smith

579-04277-11

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the termination of gas or electric
3 service; prohibiting any utility from terminating a
4 senior citizen's or low-income family's gas or
5 electric service for nonpayment on any day, or on the
6 following 2 calendar days, during which the National
7 Weather Service forecasts extreme temperatures in the
8 area of the utility in which the senior citizen or
9 low-income family resides; prohibiting any utility
10 from terminating a senior citizen's or low-income
11 family's gas or electric service for nonpayment on any
12 day preceding a holiday or weekend during which the
13 National Weather Service forecasts extreme
14 temperatures in the area of the utility in which the
15 senior citizen or low-income family resides; providing
16 an effective date.

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18 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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20 Section 1. (1) A utility may not terminate a senior
21 citizen's or low-income family's gas or electric service, if the
22 service is the only source by which the residence is cooled or
23 heated, for nonpayment of service on any day, or on the
24 following 2 calendar days, during which the National Weather
25 Service forecasts that the temperature is to reach 32°
26 Fahrenheit or below or 95° Fahrenheit or above in the area of
27 the utility in which the residence of the senior citizen or low-
28 income family is located.

29 (2) A utility may not terminate a senior citizen's or low-

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30 income family's gas or electric service, if the service is the
31 only source by which the residence is cooled or heated, for
32 nonpayment of service on any day immediately preceding a holiday
33 or weekend during which the National Weather Service forecasts
34 that the temperature is to reach 32° Fahrenheit or below or 95°
35 Fahrenheit or above in the area of the utility in which the
36 residence of the senior citizen or low-income family is located.

37 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.