

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2     An act relating to utility services; amending s.  
3     180.19, F.S.; requiring certain public meetings as a  
4     condition precedent to the effectiveness of a new or  
5     an extended agreement under which a municipality will  
6     provide specified utility services in other  
7     municipalities or unincorporated areas; specifying the  
8     matters to be addressed at such public meetings;  
9     requiring such agreements to be written; requiring  
10    annual public customer meetings; defining the terms  
11    "appointed representative" and "governing body";  
12    amending s. 180.191, F.S.; revising provisions  
13    relating to permissible rates, fees, and charges  
14    imposed by municipal water and sewer utilities on  
15    customers located outside the municipal boundaries;  
16    creating s. 180.192, F.S.; requiring municipalities  
17    that provide specified utility services to report  
18    certain information by a specified date, and annually  
19    thereafter, to the Florida Public Service Commission;  
20    providing penalties; requiring the commission to  
21    compile such information and submit a report by a  
22    specified date, and annually thereafter, to the  
23    Governor and the Legislature; providing construction;  
24    providing effective dates.

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

**Section 1. Section 180.19, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

180.19 Use by other municipalities and by individuals outside corporate limits.—

(1) A municipality which constructs any works as are authorized by this chapter, may permit any other municipality and the owners or association of owners of lots or lands outside of its corporate limits or within the limits of any other municipality, to connect with or use the utilities mentioned in this chapter upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed between such municipalities, and the owners or association of owners of such outside lots or lands.

(2) Any private company or corporation organized to accomplish the purposes set forth in this chapter, which has been granted a privilege or franchise by a municipality, may permit the owners or association of owners of lots or lands outside of the boundaries of said municipality granting said privilege or franchise, or other municipality, to connect with and use the utility operated by the said private company or corporation upon such terms as may be agreed between the said private company or corporation and the owners or association of owners of said lots or lands or the said municipality.

(3) (a) A new agreement, or an extension, renewal, or

51 material amendment of an existing agreement, to provide  
52 electric, natural gas, water, or sewer utility service at retail  
53 pursuant to subsection (1) must be written and may not become  
54 effective before an appointed representative of the municipality  
55 that provides service or intends to provide the service, in  
56 conjunction with the governing body of each municipality and  
57 unincorporated area served or to be served, has participated in  
58 a public meeting, which is not required to be a separate public  
59 meeting, within each municipality and unincorporated area served  
60 or to be served for purposes of providing information and  
61 soliciting public input on:

62 1. The nature of the services to be provided or changes to  
63 the services being provided.

64 2. The rates, fees, and charges to be imposed for the  
65 services provided or intended to be provided, including any  
66 differential with the rates, fees, and charges imposed for the  
67 same services on customers located within the boundaries of the  
68 serving municipality, the basis for the differential, and the  
69 length of time that the differential is expected to exist.

70 3. The extent to which revenues generated from the  
71 provision of the services will be used to fund or finance  
72 nonutility government functions or services.

73 4. Any other matters deemed relevant by the parties to the  
74 agreement.

75 (b) Rates, fees, and charges imposed for water or sewer

76 utility services provided pursuant to subsection (1) shall  
77 comply with s. 180.191.

78 (c) A representative of each municipality that provides  
79 electric, natural gas, water, or sewer utility services pursuant  
80 to subsection (1), in conjunction with the governing body of  
81 each municipality and unincorporated area in which it provides  
82 services, must annually conduct a public customer meeting, which  
83 is not required to be a separate public meeting, within each  
84 municipality and unincorporated area for purposes of soliciting  
85 public input on utility-related matters, including fees, rates,  
86 charges, and services.

87 (d) For purposes of this subsection, the term:

88 1. "Appointed representative" means an executive-level  
89 leadership employee of a municipality, or such municipality's  
90 related and separate utility authority, board, or commission,  
91 specifically appointed by the governing body to serve as its  
92 representative for purposes of this subsection.

93 2. "Governing body" means a:

94 a. Governing body of a municipality in which services are  
95 provided or proposed to be extended.

96 b. Board of county commissioners of a county in which  
97 services are provided or proposed to be extended, if services  
98 are provided or proposed to be extended in an unincorporated  
99 area within the county.

100 **Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 180.191, Florida**

**Statutes, is amended to read:**

180.191 Limitation on rates charged consumer outside city limits.—

(1) Any municipality within the state operating a water or sewer utility outside of the boundaries of such municipality shall charge consumers outside the boundaries rates, fees, and charges determined in one of the following manners:

(a) It may charge the same rates, fees, and charges as consumers inside the municipal boundaries. ~~However, in addition thereto, the municipality may add a surcharge of not more than 25 percent of such rates, fees, and charges to consumers outside the boundaries.~~ Fixing of such rates, fees, and charges in this manner shall not require a public hearing except as may be provided for service to consumers inside the municipality.

(b) It may charge rates, fees, and charges that are just and equitable and which are based on the same factors used in fixing the rates, fees, and charges for consumers inside the municipal boundaries. ~~In addition thereto, the municipality may add a surcharge not to exceed 25 percent of such rates, fees, and charges for said services to consumers outside the boundaries. However, the total of all~~ Such rates, fees, and charges for the services to consumers outside the boundaries may ~~shall~~ not be more than 25 ~~50~~ percent in excess of the rates, fees, and charges ~~total amount~~ the municipality charges consumers served within the municipality for corresponding

126 service. No such rates, fees, and charges shall be fixed until  
127 after a public hearing at which all of the users of the water or  
128 sewer systems; owners, tenants, or occupants of property served  
129 or to be served thereby; and all others interested shall have an  
130 opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed rates, fees, and  
131 charges. Any change or revision of such rates, fees, or charges  
132 may be made in the same manner as such rates, fees, or charges  
133 were originally established, but if such change or revision is  
134 to be made substantially pro rata as to all classes of service,  
135 both inside and outside the municipality, no hearing or notice  
136 shall be required.

137 **Section 3. Effective July 1, 2026, section 180.192,**  
138 **Florida Statutes, is created to read:**

139 180.192 Reporting requirements related to municipal  
140 utility service.—

141 (1) By January 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, each  
142 municipality that provides electric, natural gas, water, or  
143 sewer utility services pursuant to s. 180.191(1) must provide a  
144 report to the Florida Public Service Commission. A municipality  
145 that fails to file the report required by this subsection is  
146 subject to the penalties provided in s. 366.095. The report must  
147 identify, for each type of utility service provided by the  
148 municipality:

149 (a) The number and percentage of customers that receive  
150 utility services provided by the municipality at a location

151 outside the boundaries of the municipality.

152 (b) The volume and percentage of sales made to such  
153 customers, and the gross revenues generated from such sales.

154 (c) Whether the rates, fees, and charges imposed on  
155 customers that receive services at a location outside the  
156 municipality's boundaries are different than the rates, fees,  
157 and charges imposed on customers within the boundaries of the  
158 municipality, and, if so, the amount and percentage of the  
159 differential.

160 (2) By March 31, 2027, and annually thereafter, the  
161 commission shall compile the information provided pursuant to  
162 subsection (1) and submit a report containing this information  
163 to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of  
164 the House of Representatives.

165 (3) This section does not modify or extend the authority  
166 of the commission otherwise provided by law with respect to any  
167 municipal utility that is required to comply with subsection  
168 (1).

169 **Section 4.** Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
170 act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2027.