

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 56-247.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to prepaid electric service.*

3 [H 88]

4 Approved

5 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**6 **1. That § 56-247.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

7 § 56-247.1. Commission to require public utilities to follow certain procedures.

8 The Commission shall require that public utilities adhere to the following procedures:

9 A. Every public utility shall provide its residential customers one full billing period to pay for one  
10 month's local or basic services, before initiating any proceeding against a residential customer for  
11 nonpayment of local service.12 B. Pay the residential customer a fair rate of interest as determined by the Commission on money  
13 deposited and return the deposit with the interest after not more than one year of satisfactory credit has  
14 been established.15 C. Every public utility shall establish customer complaint procedures which will insure prompt and  
16 effective handling of all customer inquiries, service requests and complaints. Such procedure shall be  
17 approved by the Commission before its implementation and it shall be distributed to its residential  
18 customers.19 D. No electric or gas utility shall terminate a customer's service without ~~ten~~ 10 days' notice by mail  
20 to the customer.21 E. No public utility shall terminate the residential service of a customer for such customer's  
22 nonpayment of basic nonresidential services as defined by its terms and conditions on file with the  
23 Virginia State Corporation Commission.24 *F. Any electric utility formed under or subject to Chapter 9.1 (§ 56-231.15 et seq.) may install and*  
25 *operate, upon a customer's request and pursuant to an appropriate tariff for any type or classification*  
26 *of service, a prepaid metering equipment and system that is configured to terminate electric service*  
27 *immediately and automatically when the customer has incurred charges for electric service equal to the*  
28 *customer's prepayments for such service. Subsections A, B, D, and E shall not apply to services*  
29 *provided pursuant to electric service provided on a prepaid basis by a prepaid metering equipment and*  
30 *system pursuant to this subsection. Such tariffs shall be filed with the Commission for its review and*  
31 *determination that the tariff is not contrary to the public interest.*

ENROLLED

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