

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 56-235.4 of the Code of Virginia, relating to public utilities; rate*  
3 *increases; experimental rates.*

4 [H 2101]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 56-235.4 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 § 56-235.4. Prohibition of multiple rate increases within any twelve-month period; exception.

9 A. The regulated operating revenues of a public utility shall not be increased pursuant to Article 1  
10 (§ 56-209 et seq.) of Chapter 9 or Chapters 10 (§ 56-232 et seq.), 16 (§ 56-485 et seq.), or 19 (§ 56-531  
11 et seq.) of this title more than once within any twelve-month period. This limitation shall not apply to  
12 increases in regulated operating revenues resulting from (i) increases in rates pursuant to § 56-245 or  
13 § 56-249.6, (ii) any automatic rate adjustment clause approved by the Commission, ~~or~~ (iii) new rate  
14 schedules for service not offered under existing rate schedules *or for expansion, reduction, or*  
15 *termination of existing services, (iv) initiation, modification or termination of experimental rates under*  
16 *§ 56-234, or (v) the making permanent of an experimental program.* Notwithstanding any other  
17 provisions of this section, a telephone company may apply to the Commission to pass on to its  
18 customers as a part of its rates any changes approved by the Commission in the carrier access charges.

19 B. The Commission may adopt such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the  
20 provisions of this section. The Commission may specify, by rule, the time during the calendar year  
21 when application may be filed by electric utility and cooperatives, gas utilities, telephone utilities and  
22 cooperatives, and other utilities.

23 The Commission may by rule provide standards and procedures for expedited handling of rate  
24 increase applications, and such rules may provide that an expedited rate increase may take effect in less  
25 than twelve months after the preceding increase so long as regulated operating revenues are not  
26 increased pursuant to the provisions of subsection A of this section more than once in any calendar year.

ENROLLED

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