

2023 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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SENATE BILL NO. 1364

Offered January 11, 2023

Prefiled January 11, 2023

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 23 of Title 56 a section numbered 56-596.5, relating to electric utilities; control of smart thermostat prohibited.*

Patron—Vogel

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 23 of Title 56 a section numbered 56-596.5 as follows:

§ 56-596.5. *Smart thermostat; electric utility control prohibited.*

No electric utility shall make either ad hoc or scheduled adjustments to a customer's smart thermostat, regardless of whether such adjustment is part of a curtailment or demand response measure, as part of an energy efficiency program, or is otherwise designed to reduce current or anticipated demand. For the purposes of this section, "smart thermostat" means a WiFi-enabled device that can be controlled remotely and can automatically adjust heating and cooling temperature settings.

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