

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL
No. 1546 Session of
1979

INTRODUCED BY NOYE, COLE, BROWN, MILANOVICH, COCHRAN,
E. R. LYNCH, PRATT, LETTERMAN, GIAMMARCO, DeVERTER,
LIVENGOOD, REED AND PETRARCA, JUNE 25, 1979

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS, JUNE 25, 1979

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, further regulating billing procedure.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Section 1509 of Title 66, act of November 25,
6 1970 (P.L.707, No.230), known as the Pennsylvania Consolidated
7 Statutes, added July 1, 1978 (P.L.598, No.116), is amended to
8 read:

9 § 1509. Billing procedures.

10 All bills rendered by a public utility as defined in
11 paragraph (1)(i), (ii), (vi) or (vii) of the definition of
12 "public utility" in section 102 (relating to definitions) to its
13 service customers, except bills for installation charges, shall
14 allow at least [15 days for nonresidential customers and 20 days
15 for residential customers] 30 days from the date of transmittal
16 of the bill for payment without incurring any late payment
17 penalty charges [therefor] or interest charges. The interest

1 rate charged on bills more than 35 days overdue shall not exceed
2 1 1/2% per month on any unpaid balance which is more than 30
3 days overdue. All customers shall be permitted to receive bills
4 monthly and shall be notified of their right thereto. All bills
5 shall be itemized to separately show amounts for basic service,
6 Federal excise taxes, applicable State sales and gross receipts
7 taxes, to the extent practicable, fuel adjustment charge, if
8 any, State tax adjustment charge or such other similar
9 components of the total bill as the commission may order. Any
10 electric or gas public utility billing customers on a bimonthly
11 or quarterly basis and rendering interim statements or bills
12 each month shall include in such interim statement or bill an
13 amount for the fuel adjustment charge based upon one-half of the
14 total expected bimonthly kilowatt hour or cubic foot billing or
15 one-third of the total expected quarterly billing and using the
16 fuel adjustment charge rate applicable in the month of the
17 interim statement or bill. At the time of preparing the
18 bimonthly or quarterly bill, an appropriate adjustment shall be
19 made in the total fuel adjustment charge billing for the period.
20 Any public utility rendering bills on a bimonthly basis or
21 quarterly basis shall calculate the fuel adjustment charge per
22 kilowatt hour or cubic foot for the entire period as the
23 weighted average of the two monthly rates or the three monthly
24 rates whichever is applicable.

25 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.