
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 412 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY FERLO, BREWSTER, FONTANA, KASUNIC, WASHINGTON,
FARNESE, LEACH AND HUGHES, FEBRUARY 5, 2013

REFERRED TO CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
FEBRUARY 5, 2013

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in responsible utility customer
3 protection, further providing for termination of utility
4 service.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Section 1406(e) of Title 66 of the Pennsylvania
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

9 § 1406. Termination of utility service.

10 * * *

11 (e) Winter termination.--

12 (1) Unless otherwise authorized by the commission, after
13 November 30 and before April 1, an electric distribution
14 utility or natural gas distribution utility shall not
15 terminate service to customers [with household incomes at or
16 below 250% of the Federal poverty level] except for customers
17 whose actions conform to subsection (c)(1). [The commission
18 shall not prohibit an electric distribution utility or

1 natural gas distribution utility from terminating service in
2 accordance with this section to customers with household
3 incomes exceeding 250% of the Federal poverty level.

4 (2) In addition to the winter termination authority set
5 forth in paragraph (1), a city natural gas distribution
6 operation may terminate service to a customer whose household
7 income exceeds 150% of the Federal poverty level but does not
8 exceed 250% of the Federal poverty level, and starting
9 January 1, has not paid at least 50% of his charges for each
10 of the prior two months unless the customer has done one of
11 the following:

12 (i) Has proven in accordance with commission rules
13 that his household contains one or more persons who are
14 65 years of age or over.

15 (ii) Has proven in accordance with commission rules
16 that his household contains one or more persons 12 years
17 of age or younger.

18 (iii) Has obtained a medical certification in
19 accordance with commission rules.

20 (iv) Has paid to the city natural gas distribution
21 operation an amount representing at least 15% of the
22 customer's monthly household income for each of the last
23 two months.

24 (3) At the time that the notice of termination required
25 by subsection (b)(1)(i) is provided to the customer, the city
26 natural gas distribution operation shall provide notice to
27 the commission. The commission shall not stay the termination
28 of service unless the commission finds that the customer
29 meets the criteria in paragraph 2(i), (ii), (iii) or (iv).]

30 * * *

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