
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 643 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY GODSHALL, CUTLER, DAVIS, READSHAW, CAUSER,
O'BRIEN, DeLUCA, KIRKLAND, D. COSTA AND MURT,
FEBRUARY 26, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FEBRUARY 26, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, further providing for code of ethics.

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

5 Section 1. Section 319(a) of Title 66 of the Pennsylvania
6 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding paragraphs to read:
7 § 319. Code of ethics.

8 (a) General rule.--Each commissioner and each administrative
9 law judge shall conform to the following code of ethics for the
10 Public Utility Commission. A commissioner and an administrative
11 law judge must:

12 * * *

13 (11.1) Refrain from making public statements, in
14 conflict with his official duties, designed to discourage
15 public utilities from initiating or participating in judicial
16 or administrative processes established by law to determine
17 whether actions of the commission are legal or in the public

1 interest.

2 (11.2) Restrict his participation in the legislative
3 process to avoid the risk of conflict with his official
4 duties and refrain from making public statements designed to
5 exert pressure or influence on public utilities regarding the
6 public utility's participation in the legislative process.
7 Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a
8 commissioner from testifying before a legislative committee
9 or otherwise expressing an opinion on legislative issues to
10 the General Assembly.

11 * * *

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