

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Proposed Bill No. 5534



Referred to Committee on ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by: REP. CANINO, 65<sup>th</sup> Dist.

## AN ACT REMOVING THE COMBINED PUBLIC BENEFIT CHARGE, LIMITING RATES ALLOWED UNDER CERTAIN POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENTS, AMENDING THE DEFINITION OF CLASS I RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES, SEPARATING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, ELIMINATING CERTAIN ELECTRICITY INCENTIVE PROGRAMS AND REQUIRING A STUDY OF METHODS TO INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF NATURAL GAS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 That the general statutes be amended to (1) remove charges 2 collectively called the "Combined Public Benefits Charge" from electric 3 bills for end use customers of each electric distribution company, (2) 4 prohibit the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection or 5 any electric distribution company from entering into a power purchase 6 agreement that provides for the purchase of electricity at a rate 7 exceeding one hundred fifty per cent above the wholesale price of 8 electricity, (3) redefine "Class I renewable energy source" to include any 9 electricity generated from a hydropower or nuclear power generating

- 10 facility, (4) separate the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority from the
- 11 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, (5) eliminate any
- 12 incentive program that increases electric demand, including, but not
- 13 limited to, any electric vehicle rebate program, and (6) study methods
- 14 by which the supply of natural gas may be increased in the state.

## Statement of Purpose:

To (1) remove the "Combined Public Benefits Charge" from consumer electric bills, (2) prohibit the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection or electric distribution companies from entering into a power purchase agreement if the price for electricity under such agreement exceeds one hundred fifty per cent above the wholesale price of electricity, (3) redefine "Class I renewable energy source" to include electricity generated from any hydropower or nuclear power generating facility, (4) separate the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, (5) eliminate any incentive program that increases electric demand, including, but not limited to, any electric vehicle rebate program, and (6) study methods by which the supply of natural gas may be increased in the state.