



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 10202



Offered by:
SEN. NEEDLEMAN, 33rd Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 4

File No. 325

Cal. No. 199

"AN ACT CONCERNING ENERGY AFFORDABILITY, ACCESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes described in
4 subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have the
5 power from time to time to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state
6 in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in the
7 aggregate one hundred fifty million dollars in each of the fiscal years
8 ending June 30, 2026 and June 30, 2027.

9 (b) The proceeds of the sale of such bonds, to the extent of the amount
10 stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the Office of
11 Policy and Management for the purpose of reducing the annual costs of
12 hardship protection measures and other hardship protections within the
13 systems benefits charge as defined in section 16-245l of the general
14 statutes to the average annual cost of such measures and protections in
15 the five years from 2016 to 2020, inclusive, preceding the COVID-19

16 pandemic.

17 (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the exercise
18 of any right or power granted thereby, that are not inconsistent with the
19 provisions of this section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all
20 bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission pursuant to this
21 section. Temporary notes in anticipation of the money to be derived
22 from the sale of any such bonds so authorized may be issued in
23 accordance with section 3-20 of the general statutes and from time to
24 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not
25 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided
26 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond
27 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of such bonds shall be
28 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that
29 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization that is signed
30 by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management
31 and states such terms and conditions as said commission, in its
32 discretion, may require. Such bonds issued pursuant to this section shall
33 be general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit of the state
34 of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the principal of and
35 interest on such bonds as the same become due, and accordingly and as
36 part of the contract of the state with the holders of such bonds,
37 appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such
38 principal and interest is hereby made, and the State Treasurer shall pay
39 such principal and interest as the same become due.

40 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes described in
41 subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have the
42 power from time to time to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state
43 in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in the
44 aggregate thirty million dollars in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026,
45 and twenty million dollars in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027.

46 (b) The proceeds of the sale of such bonds, to the extent of the amount
47 stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the Office of
48 Policy and Management for the purpose of funding any electric vehicle

49 charging program implemented pursuant to section 16-244dd of the
50 general statutes, as amended by this act.

51 (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the exercise
52 of any right or power granted thereby, that are not inconsistent with the
53 provisions of this section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all
54 bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission pursuant to this
55 section. Temporary notes in anticipation of the money to be derived
56 from the sale of any such bonds so authorized may be issued in
57 accordance with section 3-20 of the general statutes and from time to
58 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not
59 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided
60 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond
61 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of such bonds shall be
62 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that
63 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization that is signed
64 by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management
65 and states such terms and conditions as said commission, in its
66 discretion, may require. Such bonds issued pursuant to this section shall
67 be general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit of the state
68 of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the principal of and
69 interest on such bonds as the same become due, and accordingly and as
70 part of the contract of the state with the holders of such bonds,
71 appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such
72 principal and interest is hereby made, and the State Treasurer shall pay
73 such principal and interest as the same become due.

74 Sec. 3. Section 16-244dd of the general statutes is repealed and the
75 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

76 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of this title and title 16a, the
77 Public Utilities Regulatory Authority may select the Connecticut Green
78 Bank, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the
79 electric distribution companies, as defined in section 16-1, as amended
80 by this act, a third party that the authority deems appropriate or any
81 combination thereof to implement the non-residential renewable energy

82 program established pursuant to section 16-244z, as amended by this
83 act, the residential renewable energy program established pursuant to
84 said section, the shared clean energy facility program established
85 pursuant to said section, the light-duty electric vehicle charging
86 program established by the authority in a proceeding or a medium-duty
87 to heavy-duty electric vehicle charging program established by the
88 authority in a proceeding.

89 (b) On and after January 1, 2026, the authority shall limit the expenses
90 for electric vehicle charging stations, as defined in section 16-19f, as
91 amended by this act, and customer wiring upgrades of any light-duty
92 electric vehicle charging program established by the authority in a
93 proceeding to twenty million dollars per year and further limit any
94 expenses for electric vehicle charging stations and customer wiring
95 upgrades incentivized as part of any residential single-family customer
96 program to residents who make less than or equal to three hundred per
97 cent of the federal poverty level or reside in any concentrated poverty
98 census tract, as defined in section 32-7x.

99 Sec. 4. Subsection (b) of section 16-262c of the general statutes is
100 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective April*
101 *15, 2026*):

102 (b) (1) From November [first to May first] fifteenth to April fifteenth,
103 inclusive, or during any period in which the Governor has activated the
104 state's severe cold weather protocol, no electric distribution company,
105 as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, no electric supplier
106 and no municipal utility furnishing electricity shall terminate, deny or
107 refuse to reinstate residential electric service in hardship cases where the
108 customer [lacks the financial resources to pay his or her entire account]
109 fails to pay their entire outstanding balance owed to the electric
110 distribution company or municipal utility. From November [first to May
111 first] fifteenth to April fifteenth, inclusive, or during any period in which
112 the Governor has activated the state's severe cold weather protocol, no
113 gas company and no municipal utility furnishing gas shall terminate,
114 deny or refuse to reinstate residential gas service in hardship cases

115 where the customer uses such gas for heat and [lacks the financial
116 resources to pay his or her entire account] fails to pay their entire
117 outstanding balance owed to the gas company or municipal utility,
118 except a gas company that, between [May second] April sixteenth and
119 [October thirty-first] November fourteenth, terminated gas service to a
120 residential customer who uses gas for heat and who, during the
121 previous period of November [first to May first] fifteenth to April
122 fifteenth, had gas service maintained because of hardship status, may
123 refuse to reinstate the gas service from November [first to May first]
124 fifteenth to April fifteenth, inclusive, only if the customer has failed to
125 pay, since the preceding November [first] fifteenth, the lesser of: (A)
126 Twenty per cent of the outstanding principal balance owed the gas
127 company as of the date of termination, (B) one hundred dollars, or (C)
128 the minimum payments due under the customer's amortization
129 agreement. Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, no
130 electric distribution or gas company, no electric supplier and no
131 municipal utility furnishing electricity or gas shall terminate, deny or
132 refuse to reinstate residential electric or gas service where the customer
133 lacks the financial resources to pay his or her entire account and if the
134 termination, denial of or failure to reinstate such service would create a
135 life-threatening situation for such customer or a member of such
136 customer's household. No electric distribution or gas company, no
137 electric supplier and no municipal utility furnishing electricity or gas
138 shall terminate, deny or refuse to reinstate residential electric or gas
139 service where the customer is a hardship case and lacks the financial
140 resources to pay his or her entire account and a child not more than
141 twenty-four months old resides in the customer's household and such
142 child has been admitted to the hospital and received discharge papers
143 on which the attending physician, physician assistant or an advanced
144 practice registered nurse has indicated such service is a necessity for the
145 health and well-being of such child.

146 (2) During any period in which a residential customer is subject to
147 termination, an electric distribution or gas company, an electric supplier
148 or a municipal utility furnishing electricity or gas shall provide such

149 residential customer whose account is delinquent an opportunity to
150 enter into a reasonable amortization agreement with such company,
151 electric supplier or utility to pay such delinquent account and to avoid
152 termination of service. Such amortization agreement shall allow such
153 customer adequate opportunity to apply for and receive the benefits of
154 any available energy assistance program. An amortization agreement
155 shall be subject to amendment [on] upon customer request if there is a
156 change in the customer's financial circumstances.

157 (3) As used in this section, (A) "household income" means the
158 combined income over a twelve-month period of the customer and all
159 adults, except children of the customer, who are and have been
160 members of the household for six months or more, and (B) "hardship
161 case" includes, but is not limited to: (i) A customer receiving local, state
162 or federal public assistance; (ii) a customer whose sole source of
163 financial support is Social Security, United States Department of
164 Veterans Affairs or unemployment compensation benefits; (iii) a
165 customer who is head of the household and is unemployed, and the
166 household income is less than three hundred per cent of the poverty
167 level determined by the federal government; (iv) a customer who is
168 seriously ill or who has a household member who is seriously ill; (v) a
169 customer whose income falls below one hundred twenty-five per cent
170 of the poverty level determined by the federal government; and (vi) a
171 customer whose circumstances threaten a deprivation of food and the
172 necessities of life for himself or dependent children if payment of a
173 delinquent bill is required.

174 (4) (A) Each gas company and electric distribution company shall
175 deduct an arrearage from the account of a residential customer of such
176 company if the customer (i) meets the income eligibility requirements of
177 the Connecticut energy assistance program or state appropriated fuel
178 assistance program; (ii) authorizes the gas or electric distribution
179 company to send a copy of the customer's monthly bill directly to any
180 energy assistance agency for payment; (iii) enters into and complies
181 with an amortization agreement, which agreement is consistent with

182 decisions and policies of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority; and
183 (iv) is eligible for financial hardship programs with the gas or electric
184 distribution company. The amount of an arrearage deducted under this
185 subparagraph shall be equal to the customer's monthly payment
186 pursuant to an amortization agreement under this subdivision,
187 provided the customer meets the requirements of subparagraphs (A)(i)
188 to (A)(iv), inclusive, of this subdivision for the month immediately
189 preceding such payment.

190 (B) Each gas company and electric distribution company shall deduct
191 an arrearage from the account of a residential customer who meets the
192 requirements of subparagraphs (A)(i) to (A)(iv), inclusive, of this
193 subdivision in an amount equal to any payment such customer receives
194 from the Connecticut energy assistance program, state appropriated
195 fuel assistance program or other energy assistance sources. Such
196 deduction shall be in addition to any amount deducted pursuant to
197 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

198 (C) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (7) of this
199 subsection, any amortization agreement under this subdivision shall
200 distribute customer payments over a period of twelve months, from
201 November first to October thirty-first, and shall create a monthly
202 payment that is affordable to the customer in accordance with the
203 decisions and policies of the authority.

204 (D) In no event shall the deduction of any amounts pursuant to this
205 subdivision result in a credit balance to the customer's account. No
206 customer shall be denied the benefits of this subdivision due to an error
207 by the gas or electric distribution company. If the customer fails to
208 comply with the terms of the amortization agreement, any decision of
209 the authority rendered in lieu of such agreement or the requirements of
210 subparagraphs (A)(i) to (A)(iv), inclusive, of this subdivision, the
211 company may terminate service to the customer, pursuant to all
212 applicable regulations, provided such termination shall not occur
213 between November [first] fifteenth and [May first] April fifteenth, or
214 during any period in which the Governor has activated the state's severe

215 cold weather protocol.

216 (E) Each gas and electric distribution company shall submit to the
217 Public Utilities Regulatory Authority annually, on or before June first,
218 an implementation plan that shall include information concerning
219 amortization agreements, counseling, reinstatement of eligibility, rate
220 impacts and any other information deemed relevant by the authority.
221 The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority may approve or modify such
222 plan not later than one hundred twenty-seven days after receipt of the
223 plan. If the authority does not take any action on such plan by such date,
224 the plan shall automatically take effect at the end of such one-hundred-
225 twenty-seven-day period, provided the authority may extend such
226 period for an additional thirty days by notifying the company before the
227 end of such one-hundred-twenty-seven-day period. The authority may
228 deny all or part of the recovery of costs incurred pursuant to this
229 subsection if it determines that the company seeking recovery has been
230 imprudent, inefficient or acting in violation of statutes or regulations
231 regarding amortization agreements.

232 (5) (A) All electric distribution and gas companies, electric suppliers
233 and municipal utilities furnishing electricity or gas shall collaborate in
234 developing, subject to approval by the Public Utilities Regulatory
235 Authority, standard provisions for the notice of delinquency and
236 impending termination under subsection (a) of section 16-262d, as
237 amended by this act. Each such company and utility shall place on the
238 front of such notice a provision that the company, electric supplier or
239 utility shall not effect termination of service to a residential dwelling for
240 nonpayment of disputed bills during the pendency of any complaint. In
241 addition, the notice shall state that the customer is required to pay
242 current and undisputed bill amounts during the pendency of the
243 complaint. (B) At the beginning of any discussion with a customer
244 concerning a reasonable amortization agreement, any such company or
245 utility shall inform the customer (i) of the availability of a process for
246 resolving disputes over what constitutes a reasonable amortization
247 agreement, (ii) that the company, electric supplier or utility will refer

248 such a dispute to one of its review officers as the first step in attempting
249 to resolve the dispute, and (iii) that the company, electric supplier or
250 utility shall not effect termination of service to a residential dwelling for
251 nonpayment of a delinquent account during the pendency of any
252 complaint, investigation, hearing or appeal initiated by the customer,
253 unless the customer fails to pay undisputed bills, or undisputed
254 portions of bills, for service received during such period. (C) Each such
255 company, electric supplier and utility shall inform and counsel all
256 customers who are hardship cases as to the availability of all public and
257 private energy conservation programs, including programs sponsored
258 or subsidized by such companies and utilities, eligibility criteria, where
259 to apply, and the circumstances under which such programs are
260 available without cost.

261 (6) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall adopt regulations
262 in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 to carry out the
263 provisions of this subsection. Such regulations shall include, but not be
264 limited to, criteria for determining hardship cases and for reasonable
265 amortization agreements, including appeal of such agreements, for
266 categories of customers. Such regulations may include the
267 establishment of a reasonable rate of interest that a company may charge
268 on the unpaid balance of a customer's delinquent bill and a description
269 of the relationship and responsibilities of electric suppliers to customers.

270 (7) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority may find that a
271 reasonable amortization agreement, other than a reasonable
272 amortization agreement under subdivision (4) of this subsection, is a
273 period of not more than thirty-six months, unless the authority
274 determines that a longer period is warranted. Not later than October 1,
275 2024, the authority shall amend any regulations adopted pursuant to
276 subdivision (6) of this subsection to carry out the provisions of this
277 subsection.

278 (8) The chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority may
279 distribute not more than one million dollars in total each year to
280 organizations or individuals providing legal services with the express

281 purpose of attaining participation in public service company programs
282 designed to assist customers with utility bill or arrearage payments,
283 including negotiating a reasonable amortization agreement pursuant to
284 this subsection. Any funds distributed pursuant to this subdivision shall
285 be paid by all public service companies, in proportion to such
286 companies' annual load and the amount of services provided to end use
287 customers or revenue, as determined by the authority.

288 Sec. 5. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than July 1, 2025, the Public
289 Utilities Regulatory Authority shall open an uncontested proceeding, or
290 amend the notice of proceeding in an active proceeding, to evaluate the
291 criteria and standards related to appropriate protections from service
292 termination or disconnection for medically protected customers of a
293 regulated gas company or electric distribution company, as defined in
294 section 16-1 of the general statutes, as amended by this act. Such
295 evaluation shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) Reviewing the
296 definitions of a serious illness or life-threatening medical condition,
297 including evaluating, in consultation with the Probate Court
298 Administrator, whether and how mental health conditions should be
299 included in such definitions, and recommending revisions in
300 consideration of ratepayer costs and laws and regulations adopted in
301 other similar jurisdictions; (2) recommending revisions to the current
302 protections for customers with a serious illness or life-threatening
303 medical condition that reflect limitations on the duration of termination
304 or disconnection protection; (3) reviewing protections for customers
305 with a serious illness or life-threatening medical condition, and
306 evaluating standards for conditioning protections to such customers on
307 their ability to pay; (4) evaluating additional notice requirements prior
308 to shutoff for customers with a serious illness and life-threatening
309 medical condition; (5) evaluating the current procedures and practices
310 and the relevant processes for verification of hardship status and
311 medical protections; (6) evaluating the impact of limitations on
312 medically protected customer service terminations and disconnections
313 on all other ratepayers; (7) evaluating the requirement for a medical
314 protection customer to enroll in a payment plan; and (8) evaluating

standards to ensure that electric or gas companies have in good faith attempted to secure payment from medically protected customers by reasonable means other than termination, and that adequate notice is provided to the customer prior to any termination.

(b) Not later than March 16, 2026, the chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy and technology, summarizing the results of such proceeding and providing recommendations regarding service termination policies and procedures evaluated in such proceeding.

Sec. 6. Section 16-262d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) No electric distribution, gas, telephone or water company, no electric supplier and no municipal utility furnishing electric, gas or water service may terminate such service to a residential dwelling on account of nonpayment of a delinquent account unless such company, electric supplier or municipal utility first gives notice of such delinquency and impending termination by first class mail addressed to the customer to which such service is billed, [at least] not less than thirteen calendar days prior to the proposed termination, except that if an electric distribution or gas company, electric supplier or municipal utility furnishing electric or gas service has issued a notice under this subsection but has not terminated service prior to issuing a new bill to the customer, such company, electric supplier or municipal utility may terminate such service only after mailing the customer an additional notice of the impending termination, addressed to the customer to which such service is billed either (1) by first class mail at least thirteen calendar days prior to the proposed termination, or (2) by certified mail, [at least] not less than seven calendar days prior to the proposed termination. In the event that multiple dates of proposed termination are provided to a customer, no such company, electric supplier or municipal utility shall terminate service [prior to] before the latest of

348 such dates. For purposes of this subsection, the thirteen-day periods and
349 seven-day period shall commence on the date such notice is mailed. If
350 such company, electric supplier or municipal utility does not terminate
351 service within one hundred twenty days after mailing the initial notice
352 of termination, such company, electric supplier or municipal utility shall
353 give the customer a new notice [at least] not less than thirteen days prior
354 to termination. Every termination notice issued by a public service
355 company, electric supplier or municipal utility shall contain or be
356 accompanied by an explanation of the rights of the customer provided
357 in subsection (c) of this section.

358 (b) No such company, electric supplier or municipal utility shall
359 effect termination of service for nonpayment during such time as any
360 resident of a dwelling to which such service is furnished is seriously ill,
361 if the fact of such serious illness is certified to such company, electric
362 supplier or municipal utility by a registered physician, a physician
363 assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse within such period of
364 time after the mailing of a termination notice pursuant to subsection (a)
365 of this section as the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority may by
366 regulation establish, provided the customer agrees to amortize the
367 unpaid balance of his account over a reasonable period of time and
368 keeps current his account for utility service as charges accrue in each
369 subsequent billing period.

370 (c) No such company, electric supplier or municipal utility shall effect
371 termination of service to a residential dwelling for nonpayment during
372 the pendency of any complaint, investigation, hearing or appeal,
373 initiated by a customer within such period of time after the mailing of a
374 termination notice pursuant to subsection (a) of this section as the Public
375 Utilities Regulatory Authority may by regulation establish; provided,
376 any telephone company during the pendency of any complaint,
377 investigation, hearing or appeal may terminate telephone service if the
378 amount of charges accruing and outstanding subsequent to the
379 initiation of any complaint, investigation, hearing or appeal exceeds on
380 a monthly basis the average monthly bill for the previous three months

381 or if the customer fails to keep current [his] such telephone account for
382 all undisputed charges or fails to comply with any amortization
383 agreement as hereafter provided.

384 (d) Any customer who has initiated a complaint or investigation
385 under subsection (c) of this section shall be given an opportunity for
386 review of such complaint or investigation by a review officer of the
387 company, electric supplier or municipal utility other than a member of
388 such company's, electric supplier's or municipal utility's credit
389 authority, provided the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority may
390 waive this requirement for any company, electric supplier or municipal
391 utility employing fewer than twenty-five full-time employees, which
392 review shall include consideration of whether the customer should be
393 permitted to amortize the unpaid balance of his account over a
394 reasonable period of time. No termination shall be effected for any
395 customer complying with any such amortization agreement, provided
396 such customer also keeps current [his] such account for utility service as
397 charges accrue in each subsequent billing period.

398 (e) Any customer whose complaint or request for an investigation has
399 resulted in a determination by a company, electric supplier or municipal
400 utility which is adverse to [him] such customer may appeal such
401 determination to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority or a hearing
402 officer appointed by the authority.

403 (f) If, following the receipt of a termination notice or the entering into
404 of an amortization agreement, the customer makes a payment or
405 payments amounting to twenty per cent of the balance due, the public
406 service company or electric supplier shall not terminate service without
407 giving notice to the customer, in accordance with the provisions of this
408 section, of the conditions the customer must meet to avoid termination,
409 but such subsequent notice shall not entitle such customer to further
410 investigation, review or appeal by the company, electric supplier,
411 municipal utility or authority.

412 (g) No electric distribution, gas or water company, gas registrant or

413 municipal utility furnishing electric, gas or water service shall submit to
414 a credit rating agency, as defined in section 36a-695, any information
415 about a residential customer's nonpayment for electric, gas or water
416 service unless the customer is more than one hundred twenty days
417 delinquent in paying for such service. In no event shall such a company,
418 gas registrant or municipal utility submit to a credit rating agency any
419 information about a residential customer's nonpayment for such service
420 if the customer has initiated a complaint, investigation, hearing or
421 appeal with regard to such service under subsection (c) of this section
422 that is pending before the authority. If such a company, gas registrant
423 or municipal utility intends to submit to a credit rating agency
424 information about a customer's nonpayment for service, it shall, at least
425 thirty days before submitting such information, send the customer by
426 first class mail notification that includes the statement, "AS
427 AUTHORIZED BY LAW, FOR RESIDENTIAL ACCOUNTS, WE
428 SUPPLY PAYMENT INFORMATION TO CREDIT RATING
429 AGENCIES. IF YOUR ACCOUNT IS MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED
430 TWENTY DAYS DELINQUENT, THE DELINQUENCY REPORT
431 COULD HARM YOUR CREDIT RATING".

432 (h) No telephone company or certified telecommunications provider
433 shall submit to a credit rating agency, as defined in section 36a-695, any
434 information about a residential customer's nonpayment for telephone or
435 telecommunications service, unless the customer is more than sixty days
436 delinquent in paying for such service. In no event shall a telephone
437 company or certified telecommunications provider submit to a credit
438 rating agency any information about a residential customer's
439 nonpayment for such service if the customer has initiated a complaint,
440 investigation, hearing or appeal with regard to such service under
441 subsection (c) of this section that is pending before the authority. If a
442 telephone company or certified telecommunications provider intends to
443 submit to a credit rating agency information about a customer's
444 nonpayment for service, it shall, at least thirty days before submitting
445 such information, send the customer, by first class mail, notification that
446 includes the statement, "AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW, FOR

447 RESIDENTIAL ACCOUNTS, WE SUPPLY PAYMENT
448 INFORMATION TO CREDIT RATING OR DEBT COLLECTION
449 AGENCIES. IF YOUR ACCOUNT IS MORE THAN SIXTY DAYS
450 DELINQUENT, THE DELINQUENCY REPORT COULD HARM YOUR
451 CREDIT RATING".

452 Sec. 7. Section 2 of public act 24-31 is repealed and the following is
453 substituted in lieu thereof(*Effective from passage*):

454 The chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall
455 conduct a study regarding the renewable energy tariff programs
456 established pursuant to section 16-244z of the general statutes, as
457 amended by [this act] public act 24-31. Such study shall include, but not
458 be limited to, an examination of (1) whether to extend such programs
459 beyond the procurement years authorized in said section; (2) potential
460 processes that can be adopted to avoid stranded projects; and (3)
461 potential successor programs. An examination conducted pursuant to
462 subdivisions (2) and (3) of this section shall include, but not be limited
463 to: (A) An examination of potential programs that do not incorporate
464 any megawatt cap; (B) consideration of different possible criteria and
465 procedures for choosing projects, such as choosing projects by lottery or
466 on a first-come, first-served basis; [and] (C) an identification of
467 alternative bidding frameworks, such as awarding solicitations based
468 on what projects can be deployed soonest; (D) a framework to
469 encourage the aggregation of distributed energy resources that can
470 respond and provide grid and retail market services; (E) an evaluation
471 of how nonparticipating electric customers may be impacted by
472 renewable energy tariff programs, and strategies for minimizing any
473 unintended duplication of incentives or subsidies between participating
474 and nonparticipating electric customers, including a fair and complete
475 evaluation of costs and benefits of the renewable energy tariff programs
476 and methods to maximize benefits to nonparticipating customers, such
477 as reducing electric system distribution congestion; and (F)
478 consideration of different compensation structures to encourage
479 deployment in areas of grid under-utilization. Not later than [January

480 15] March 1, 2026, the chairperson shall submit, in accordance with the
481 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, the results of such
482 study, including any recommendations, to the joint standing committee
483 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
484 energy and technology.

485 Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) Any low-income rates
486 implemented by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority pursuant to
487 section 16-19 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, 16-19e, 16-
488 19oo or 16-19zz of the general statutes in any rate case or other
489 proceeding initiated on or after October 1, 2025, or in a pending rate case
490 for which a final decision has not been issued prior to November 1, 2025,
491 shall include, but not be limited to, the following cost-containment
492 measures to protect ratepayers: (1) A monthly kilowatt hour usage cap
493 applied to the low-income rate for customers of an electric distribution
494 company, a monthly centum cubic feet usage cap applied to the low-
495 income rate for customers of a gas company and a monthly gallon usage
496 cap applied to the low-income rate for customers of a water company;
497 (2) a budgetary target-triggering review by the authority if an electric
498 distribution company, gas company or water company's total cost to
499 fund the low-income rate exceeds a certain percentage of the electric
500 distribution company, gas company or water company's annual billed
501 total revenues; and (3) a recertification process to confirm income
502 eligibility for the program and appropriate tier placement at least once
503 every twelve months of program enrollment.

504 Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than November 15,
505 2029, the chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall
506 submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
507 general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General
508 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy and
509 technology regarding the implementation of low-income rates pursuant
510 to sections 16-19 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, 16-19e,
511 16-19oo and 16-19zz of the general statutes, during the period from
512 January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2028, inclusive. The report shall

513 include, but need not be limited to, a review of the low-income rate
514 program, including the effectiveness of the cost-containment measures,
515 the effectiveness of the low-income rate in reducing uncollectibles and
516 the effectiveness of the low-income rate in encouraging bill payment.

517 Sec. 10. Section 16-244z of the general statutes is repealed and the
518 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

519 (a) (1) (A) On or before September 1, 2018, the Public Utilities
520 Regulatory Authority shall initiate a proceeding to establish a
521 procurement plan for each electric distribution company pursuant to
522 this subsection and may give a preference to technologies
523 manufactured, researched or developed in the state, provided such
524 procurement plan is consistent with and contributes to the requirements
525 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with section 22a-
526 200a. Each electric distribution company shall develop such
527 procurement plan in consultation with the Department of Energy and
528 Environmental Protection and shall submit such procurement plan to
529 the authority not later than sixty days after the authority initiates the
530 proceeding pursuant to this subdivision, provided the department shall
531 submit the program requirements pursuant to subparagraph (C) of this
532 subdivision on or before July 1, 2019. The authority may require such
533 electric distribution companies to conduct separate solicitations
534 pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection for the resources in
535 subparagraphs (A), (B) and (C) of said subdivision, including separate
536 solicitations based upon the size of such resources to allow for a
537 diversity of selected projects.

538 (B) On or before September 1, 2018, the authority shall initiate a
539 proceeding to establish tariffs that provide for twenty-year terms of
540 service described in subdivision (3) of this subsection for each electric
541 distribution company pursuant to subparagraphs (A) and (B) of
542 subdivision (2) of this subsection. In such proceeding, the authority shall
543 establish the period of time that will be used for calculating the net
544 amount of energy produced by a facility and not consumed, provided
545 the authority shall assess whether to incorporate time-of-use rates or

546 other dynamic pricing and such period of time shall be either (i) in real
547 time, (ii) in one day, (iii) in any fraction of a day not to exceed one day,
548 or (iv) in any period of time greater than one day up to and including
549 one month. In such proceeding, the authority shall consider the findings
550 of the study of the value of distributed energy resources conducted
551 pursuant to section 16a-3o. The rate for such tariffs shall be established
552 by the solicitation pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection.

553 (C) On or before September 1, 2018, the Department of Energy and
554 Environmental Protection shall (i) initiate a proceeding to develop
555 program requirements and tariff proposals for shared clean energy
556 facilities eligible pursuant to subparagraph [(C)] (B) of subdivision (2)
557 of this subsection, including, but not limited to, the requirements in
558 subdivision (6) of this subsection, and (ii) establish either or both of the
559 following tariff proposals: (I) A tariff proposal that includes a price cap
560 on a cents-per-kilowatt-hour basis for any procurement for such
561 resources based on the procurement results of any other procurement
562 issued pursuant to this subsection, and (II) a tariff proposal that includes
563 a tariff rate for customers eligible under subparagraph [(C)] (B) of
564 subdivision (2) of this subsection based on energy policy goals identified
565 by the department in the Comprehensive Energy Strategy pursuant to
566 section 16a-3d. On or before July 1, 2019, the department shall submit
567 any such program requirements and tariff proposals to the authority for
568 review and approval. On or before January 1, 2020, the authority shall
569 approve or modify such program requirements and tariff proposals
570 submitted by the department. If the authority approves two tariff
571 proposals pursuant to this subparagraph, the authority shall determine
572 how much of the total compensation authorized for customers eligible
573 under this subparagraph pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision
574 (1) of subsection (c) of this section shall be available under each tariff.

575 (2) Not less than once per year, each electric distribution company
576 shall jointly or individually solicit and file with the Public Utilities
577 Regulatory Authority for its approval one or more projects selected
578 resulting from any procurement issued pursuant to subdivision (1) of

579 this subsection that are consistent with the tariffs approved by the
580 authority pursuant to subparagraphs (B) and (C) of subdivision (1) of
581 this subsection and that are applicable to (A) [customers that own or
582 develop new generation projects on a customer's own premises that are
583 less than five megawatts in size, serve the distribution system of an
584 electric distribution company, are constructed after the solicitation
585 conducted pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection to which the
586 customer is responding, and use a Class I renewable energy source that
587 either (i) uses anaerobic digestion, or (ii) has emissions of no more than
588 0.07 pounds per megawatt-hour of nitrogen oxides, 0.10 pounds per
589 megawatt-hour of carbon monoxide, 0.02 pounds per megawatt-hour of
590 volatile organic compounds and one grain per one hundred standard
591 cubic feet, (B)] customers that own or develop new generation projects
592 on a customer's own premises that are less than five megawatts in size,
593 serve the distribution system of an electric distribution company, are
594 constructed after the solicitation conducted pursuant to subdivision (4)
595 of this subsection to which the customer is responding, and use a Class
596 I renewable energy source that emits no pollutants, and [(C)] (B)
597 customers that own or develop new generation projects that are a shared
598 clean energy facility, consistent with the program requirements
599 developed pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of this
600 subsection. For purposes of this section, "shared clean energy facility"
601 means a Class I renewable energy source [, as defined in section 16-1,]
602 that (i) emits no pollutants, (ii) is served by an electric distribution
603 company, [as defined in section 16-1,(ii)] (iii) has a nameplate capacity
604 rating of five megawatts or less, and [(iii)] (iv) has at least two
605 subscribers. Any project that is eligible pursuant to subparagraph [(C)]
606 (B) of this subdivision shall not be eligible pursuant to subparagraph (A)
607 [or (B)] of this subdivision.

608 (3) A customer that is eligible pursuant to subparagraph (A) [or (B)]
609 of subdivision (2) of this subsection may elect in any such solicitation to
610 utilize either (A) a tariff for the purchase of all energy and renewable
611 energy certificates on a cents-per-kilowatt-hour basis, or (B) a tariff for
612 the purchase of any energy produced by a facility and not consumed in

613 the period of time established by the authority pursuant to
614 subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of this subsection and all renewable
615 energy certificates generated by such facility on a cents-per-kilowatt-
616 hour basis, subject to any tariff terms, conditions or other stipulations of
617 the authority, including, but not limited to, stipulations regarding the
618 capacity rights of a given facility.

619 (4) Each electric distribution company shall jointly or individually
620 conduct an annual solicitation or solicitations, as determined by the
621 authority, for the purchase of energy and renewable energy certificates
622 produced by eligible generation projects under this subsection over the
623 duration of each applicable tariff. Generation projects eligible pursuant
624 to [subparagraphs] subparagraph (A) [and (B)] of subdivision (2) of this
625 subsection shall be sized so as not to exceed the load at the customer's
626 individual electric meter or a set of electric meters, when such meters
627 are combined for billing purposes, as determined by the authority,
628 unless such customer is a state, municipal or agricultural customer, then
629 such generation project shall be sized so as not to exceed the load at such
630 customer's individual electric meter or a set of electric meters at the
631 same customer premises, when such meters are combined for billing
632 purposes, and the load of up to five state, municipal or agricultural
633 beneficial accounts, as defined in section 16-244u, identified by such
634 state, municipal or agricultural customer, and such state, municipal or
635 agricultural customer may include the load of up to five additional
636 nonstate or municipal beneficial accounts, as defined in section 16-244u,
637 when sizing such generation project, provided such accounts are critical
638 facilities, as defined in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 16-
639 243y, and are connected to a microgrid.

640 (5) The maximum selected purchase price of energy and renewable
641 energy certificates on a cents-per-kilowatt-hour basis in any given
642 solicitation shall not exceed such maximum selected purchase price for
643 the same resources in the prior year's solicitation, unless the authority
644 makes a determination that there are changed circumstances in any
645 given year. For the first year solicitation issued pursuant to this

646 subsection, the authority shall establish a cap for the selected purchase
647 price for energy and renewable energy certificates on a cents-per-
648 kilowatt-hour basis for any resources authorized under this subsection.

649 (6) The program requirements for shared clean energy facilities
650 developed pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of this
651 subsection shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

652 (A) The department shall allow cost-effective projects of various
653 nameplate capacities that may allow for the construction of multiple
654 projects in the service area of each electric distribution company that
655 operates within the state.

656 (B) The department shall determine the billing credit for any
657 subscriber of a shared clean energy facility that may be issued through
658 the electric distribution companies' monthly billing systems, and
659 establish consumer protections for subscribers and potential subscribers
660 of such a facility, including, but not limited to, disclosures to be made
661 when selling or reselling a subscription.

662 (C) Such program shall utilize one or more tariff mechanisms with
663 the electric distribution companies for a term not to exceed twenty years,
664 subject to approval by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, to pay
665 for the purchase of any energy products and renewable energy
666 certificates produced by any eligible shared clean energy facility, or to
667 deliver any billing credit of any such facility.

668 (D) The department shall limit subscribers to (i) low-income
669 customers, (ii) moderate-income customers, (iii) small business
670 customers, (iv) state or municipal customers, (v) commercial customers,
671 and (vi) residential customers who can demonstrate, pursuant to criteria
672 determined by the department in the program requirements
673 recommended by the department and approved by the authority, that
674 they are unable to utilize the tariffs offered pursuant to subsection (b) of
675 this section.

676 (E) The department shall require that (i) not less than twenty per cent

677 of the total capacity of each shared clean energy facility is sold, given or
678 provided to low-income customers, and (ii) not less than sixty per cent
679 of the total capacity of each shared clean energy facility is sold, given or
680 provided to low-income customers, moderate-income customers or
681 low-income service organizations. The authority may modify such
682 shared clean energy facility capacity requirements for the limited
683 purpose of aligning the allocation of shared clean energy facility
684 capacity with the requirements of any federal acts providing renewable
685 energy incentives.

686 (F) The department may allow preferences to projects that serve low-
687 income customers and shared clean energy facilities that benefit
688 customers who reside in environmental justice communities.

689 (G) The department may create incentives or other financing
690 mechanisms to encourage participation by low-income customers.

691 (H) The department may require that not more than forty per cent of
692 the total capacity of each shared clean energy facility is sold to
693 commercial customers.

694 (7) For purposes of this subsection:

695 (A) "Environmental justice community" has the same meaning as
696 provided in subsection (a) of section 22a-20a;

697 (B) "Low-income customer" means an in-state retail end user of an
698 electric distribution company (i) whose income does not exceed sixty
699 per cent of the state median income, adjusted for family size, or (ii) that
700 is an affordable housing facility. The authority may modify such
701 definition for the limited purpose of aligning such definition with the
702 requirements of any federal acts providing renewable energy incentives;

703 (C) "Low-income service organization" means a for-profit or
704 nonprofit organization that provides service or assistance to low-income
705 individuals; and

706 (D) "Moderate-income customer" means an in-state retail end user of
707 an electric distribution company whose income is between sixty per cent
708 and one hundred per cent of the state median income, adjusted for
709 family size. The authority may modify such definition for the limited
710 purpose of aligning such definition with the requirements of any federal
711 acts providing renewable energy incentives.

712 (b) (1) On or before July 1, 2020, the authority shall initiate a
713 proceeding to establish (A) tariffs for each electric distribution company
714 pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection, (B) a rate for such tariffs,
715 which may be based upon the results of one or more competitive
716 solicitations issued pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, or on the
717 average cost of installing the generation project and a reasonable rate of
718 return that is just, reasonable and adequate, as determined by the
719 authority, and shall be guided by the Comprehensive Energy Strategy
720 prepared pursuant to section 16a-3d, and (C) the period of time that will
721 be used for calculating the net amount of energy produced by a facility
722 and not consumed, provided the authority shall assess whether to
723 incorporate time-of-use rates or other dynamic pricing and such period
724 of time shall be either (i) in real time, (ii) in one day, (iii) in any fraction
725 of a day not to exceed one day, or (iv) in any period of time greater than
726 one day up to and including one month. In such proceeding, the
727 authority shall consider the findings of the study of the value of
728 distributed energy resources conducted pursuant to section 16a-3o. The
729 authority shall issue a final decision in such proceeding on or before July
730 1, 2021. The authority may modify such rate for new customers under
731 this subsection based on changed circumstances and may establish an
732 interim tariff rate prior to the expiration of the residential solar
733 investment program pursuant to subsection (b) of section 16-245ff as an
734 alternative to such program, provided any residential customer
735 utilizing a tariff pursuant to this subsection at such customer's electric
736 meter shall not be eligible for any incentives offered pursuant to section
737 16-245ff at the same such electric meter and any residential customer
738 utilizing any incentives offered pursuant to section 16-245ff at such
739 customer's electric meter shall not be eligible for a tariff pursuant to this

740 subsection at the same such electric meter. For rates offered pursuant to
741 subparagraph (A) or (B) of subdivision (2) of this subsection, on and
742 after January 1, 2026, the authority shall establish a nonbypassable
743 charge as part of the netting tariff offering at a rate equal to at least three
744 and one-quarter cents and shall adjust the compensation offered
745 pursuant to the buy-all tariff such that the rates offered pursuant to both
746 tariff offerings are substantially similar.

747 (2) On and after January 1, 2022, each electric distribution company
748 shall offer the following options to residential customers for the
749 purchase of products generated from a Class I renewable energy source
750 that emits no pollutants and that is located on a customer's own
751 premises and has a nameplate capacity rating of twenty-five kilowatts
752 or less for a term not to exceed twenty years: (A) A tariff for the purchase
753 of all energy and renewable energy certificates on a cents-per-kilowatt-
754 hour basis; and (B) a tariff for the purchase of any energy produced and
755 not consumed in the period of time established by the authority
756 pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of this subsection and
757 all renewable energy certificates generated by such facility on a cents-
758 per-kilowatt-hour basis, subject to any tariff terms, conditions or other
759 stipulations of the authority, including, but not limited to, stipulations
760 regarding the capacity rights of a given facility. A residential customer
761 shall select either option authorized pursuant to subparagraph (A) or
762 (B) of this subdivision, consistent with the requirements of this section.
763 Such generation projects shall be sized so as not to exceed the load at the
764 customer's individual electric meter or, in the case of a multifamily
765 dwelling that qualifies under this subsection, the load of the premises,
766 from the electric distribution company providing service to such
767 customer, pursuant to any rules established by the authority and as
768 determined by such electric distribution company. For purposes of this
769 section, "residential customer" means a customer of a single-family
770 dwelling, a multifamily dwelling consisting of two to four units, or a
771 multifamily dwelling consisting of five or more units, provided in the
772 case of a multifamily dwelling consisting of five or more units, (i) not
773 less than sixty per cent of the units of the multifamily dwelling are

774 occupied by persons and families with income that is not more than
775 sixty per cent of the area median income for the municipality in which
776 it is located, as determined by the United States Department of Housing
777 and Urban Development, or (ii) such multifamily dwelling is
778 determined to be affordable housing by the Public Utilities Regulatory
779 Authority in consultation with the Department of Energy and
780 Environmental Protection, Department of Housing, Connecticut Green
781 Bank, Connecticut Housing Finance Authority and United States
782 Department of Housing and Urban Development. In the case of a
783 multifamily dwelling consisting of five or more units, a generation
784 project shall only qualify under this subsection if: (I) Each of the
785 dwelling units receives an appropriate share of the benefits from the
786 generation project, and (II) no greater than an appropriate share of the
787 benefits from the generation project is used to offset common area
788 usage. The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall initiate an
789 uncontested proceeding to implement the distribution of the benefits
790 from the generation project pursuant to this section.

791 (c) (1) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision,
792 for procurement and tariff years commencing on and after January 1,
793 2025, [the total megawatts available to customers eligible under
794 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section shall
795 not exceed ten megawatts per year,] the total megawatts available to
796 customers eligible under subparagraph [(B)] (A) of subdivision (2) of
797 subsection (a) of this section shall not exceed one hundred megawatts
798 per year and the total megawatts available to customers eligible under
799 subparagraph [(C)] (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section
800 shall not exceed fifty megawatts per year. The authority shall monitor
801 the competitiveness of any procurements authorized pursuant to
802 subsection (a) of this section and may adjust the annual purchase
803 amount established in this subsection or other procurement parameters
804 to maintain competitiveness. Any megawatts not allocated in any given
805 year shall roll into the next year's available megawatts. The obligation
806 to purchase energy and renewable energy certificates shall be
807 apportioned as determined by the authority.

808 (B) For procurement and tariff years commencing on and after
809 January 1, 2025, the authority may exceed the limits on total available
810 megawatts described in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision for any
811 procurement and tariff program authorized pursuant to subsection (a)
812 of this section in any such year, if, during the period commencing on
813 January first and ending on the date that the last project is selected
814 pursuant to the usual procurement process for such program, as
815 determined by the authority, the aggregate dollar amount of
816 procurements of energy and renewable energy credits over the tariff
817 term for all selected projects does not exceed the aggregate dollar
818 amount of procurements of energy and renewable energy credits over
819 the tariff term for all projects selected in such program during the
820 calendar year 2024. The authority shall determine the manner of
821 exceeding such limits.

822 (C) (i) The electric distribution companies shall continue to offer any
823 tariffs developed pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of
824 subsection (a) of this section for six years, inclusive of previous years of
825 such procurement and tariff program. The sixth and final year of such
826 procurement and tariff program shall be the calendar year 2027.

827 (ii) The electric distribution companies shall continue to offer any
828 tariffs developed pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of
829 subsection (a) of this section for eight years, inclusive of previous years
830 of such procurement and tariff program. The eighth and final year of
831 such procurement and tariff program shall be the calendar year 2027.

832 (D) The electric distribution companies shall offer any tariffs
833 developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section for six years. At the
834 end of the tariff term pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of
835 subsection (b) of this section, residential customers that elected the
836 option pursuant to said subparagraph shall be credited all cents-per-
837 kilowatt-hour charges pursuant to the tariff rate for such customer for
838 energy produced by the Class I renewable energy source against any
839 energy that is consumed in real time by such residential customer.

840 (E) The authority shall establish tariffs for the purchase of energy on
841 a cents-per-kilowatt-hour basis at the expiration of any tariff terms
842 authorized pursuant to this section.

843 (2) The department, in consultation with the authority, shall assess
844 the tariff offerings pursuant to this section and determine if such
845 offerings are competitive compared to the cost of the technologies and
846 shall report, in accordance with section 11-4a, the results of such
847 determination to the General Assembly not later than January 15, 2027.

848 (3) For any tariff established pursuant to this section, the authority
849 shall examine how to incorporate the following energy system benefits
850 into the rate established for any such tariff: (A) Energy storage systems
851 that provide electric distribution benefits, (B) location of a facility on the
852 distribution system, (C) time-of-use rates or other dynamic pricing, and
853 (D) other energy policy benefits identified in the Comprehensive Energy
854 Strategy prepared pursuant to section 16a-3d.

855 (d) In accordance with subsection [(h)] (g) of section 16-245a, as
856 amended by this act, the authority shall [determine which of the
857 following two options is in the best interest of ratepayers and shall direct
858 each electric distribution company to either (1) retire the renewable
859 energy certificates it purchases pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of
860 this section on behalf of all ratepayers to satisfy the obligations of all
861 electric suppliers and electric distribution companies providing
862 standard service or supplier of last resort service pursuant to section 16-
863 245a, or (2) sell such renewable energy certificates into the New England
864 Power Pool Generation information system renewable energy credit
865 market. The authority shall establish procedures for the retirement of
866 such renewable energy certificates. Any net revenues from the sale of
867 products purchased in accordance with this section shall be credited to
868 customers through a nonbypassable fully reconciling component of
869 electric rates for all customers of the electric distribution company]
870 follow the procedures established pursuant to subsection (g) of section
871 16-245a, as amended by this act, for certificates issued by the New
872 England Power Pool Generation Information System for any Class I

873 renewable energy source purchased by an electric distribution company
874 pursuant to this section.

875 (e) The costs prudently and reasonably incurred by an electric
876 distribution company pursuant to this section shall be recovered on a
877 timely basis through a nonbypassable fully reconciling component of
878 electric rates for all customers of the electric distribution company. Any
879 net revenues from the sale of products purchased in accordance with
880 any tariff offered pursuant to this section shall be credited to customers
881 through the same fully reconciling rate component for all customers of
882 such electric distribution company.

883 (f) Notwithstanding the size-to-load provisions of subdivision (4) of
884 subsection (a) of this section, the entire rooftop space of a customer's
885 own premises developed pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision
886 (1) of subsection (a) of this section and owned by a commercial or
887 industrial customer may be used for purposes of electricity generation
888 and participation in the solicitation conducted by each electric
889 distribution company pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of
890 this section.

891 (g) State, municipal and agricultural customers shall be exempt from
892 the requirement that generation projects owned or developed pursuant
893 to subparagraph (A) [or (B)] of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this
894 section be located on a customer's own premises.

895 (h) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, the authority shall
896 incorporate the program established pursuant to section 16-244ee into
897 the programs authorized pursuant to this section.

898 Sec. 11. Section 16-245e of the general statutes is repealed and the
899 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

900 (a) As used in this section, sections 16-245f to 16-245k, inclusive, as
901 amended by this act, and section 16-245m, as amended by this act:

902 (1) "Rate reduction bonds" means bonds, notes, certificates of

903 participation or beneficial interest, or other [evidences] evidence of
904 indebtedness or ownership, issued pursuant to an executed indenture
905 or other agreement of a financing entity, in accordance with this section
906 and sections 16-245f to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by this act, the
907 proceeds of which are used, directly or indirectly, to provide, recover,
908 finance, or refinance stranded costs, financed utility services or
909 economic recovery transfer, or to sustain funding of conservation and
910 load management and renewable energy investment programs by
911 substituting for disbursements to the General Fund from the
912 Conservation and Load Management Plan established by section 16-
913 245m, as amended by this act, and from the Clean Energy Fund
914 established by section 16-245n, and which, directly or indirectly, are
915 secured by, evidence ownership interests in, or are payable from,
916 transition property;

917 (2) "Competitive transition assessment" means those nonbypassable
918 rates and other charges, that are authorized by the authority (A) in a
919 financing order in respect to the economic recovery transfer, or in a
920 financing order, to sustain funding of conservation and load
921 management and renewable energy investment programs by
922 substituting disbursements to the General Fund from proceeds of rate
923 reduction bonds for such disbursements from the Conservation and
924 Load Management Plan established by section 16-245m, as amended by
925 this act, and from the Clean Energy Fund established by section 16-245n,
926 or to recover those stranded costs or financed utility services that are
927 eligible to be funded with the proceeds of rate reduction bonds pursuant
928 to section 16-245f, as amended by this act, and the costs of providing,
929 recovering, financing, or refinancing the economic recovery transfer or
930 such substitution of disbursements to the General Fund or such
931 stranded costs or financed utility services through a plan approved by
932 the authority in the financing order, including the costs of issuing,
933 servicing, and retiring rate reduction bonds, (B) to recover those
934 stranded costs or financed utility services determined under this section
935 but not eligible to be funded with the proceeds of rate reduction bonds
936 pursuant to section 16-245f, as amended by this act, or (C) to recover

937 costs determined under subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section 16-
938 244g. If requested by the electric distribution company, the authority
939 shall include in the competitive transition assessment nonbypassable
940 rates and other charges to recover federal and state taxes whose
941 recovery period is modified by the transactions contemplated in this
942 section and sections 16-245f to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by this
943 act;

944 (3) "Customer" means any individual, business, firm, corporation,
945 association, tax-exempt organization, joint stock association, trust,
946 partnership, limited liability company, the United States or its agencies,
947 this state, any political subdivision thereof or state agency that
948 purchases electric generation or distribution services as a retail end user
949 in the state from any electric supplier or electric distribution company;

950 (4) "Finance authority" means the state, acting through the office of
951 the State Treasurer;

952 (5) "Authority" means the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority;

953 ~~[(5)]~~ (6) "Net proceeds" means the book income from the sale or
954 divestiture of assets, consisting of sales price less reasonable expenses of
955 sale, related income and other;

956 ~~[(6)]~~ (7) "Stranded costs" means that portion of generation assets,
957 generation-related regulatory assets or long-term contract costs
958 determined by the authority in accordance with the provisions of
959 subsections (e), (f), (g) and (h) of this section;

960 ~~[(7)]~~ (8) "Generation assets" means the total construction and other
961 capital asset costs of generation facilities approved for inclusion in rates
962 before July 1, 1997, but does not include any costs relating to the
963 decommissioning of any such facility or any costs which the authority
964 found during a proceeding initiated before July 1, 1998, were incurred
965 because of imprudent management;

966 ~~[(8)]~~ (9) "Generation-related regulatory assets" means generation-

967 related costs authorized or mandated before July 1, 1998, by the Public
968 Utilities Regulatory Authority, approved for inclusion in the rates, and
969 include, but are not limited to, costs incurred for deferred taxes,
970 conservation programs, environmental protection programs, public
971 policy costs and research and development costs, net of any applicable
972 credits payable to customers, but does not include any costs which the
973 authority found during a proceeding initiated before July 1, 1998, were
974 incurred because of imprudent management;

975 [(9)] (10) "Long-term contract costs" mean the above-market portion
976 of the costs of contractual obligations approved for inclusion in the rates
977 that were entered into before January 1, 2000, arising from independent
978 power producer contracts required by law or purchased power
979 contracts approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;

980 [(10)] (11) "Financing entity" means the finance authority or any
981 special purpose trust or other entity that is authorized by the finance
982 authority, or, in the case of rate reduction bonds to recover financed
983 utility services, authorized by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
984 pursuant to a financing order, to issue rate reduction bonds or acquire
985 transition property pursuant to such terms and conditions as the finance
986 authority, or said authority, if applicable, may specify, or both;

987 [(11)] (12) "Financing order" means an order of the authority adopted
988 in accordance with this section and sections 16-245f to 16-245k,
989 inclusive, as amended by this act;

990 [(12)] (13) "Transition property" means the irrevocable property right
991 created pursuant to this section and sections 16-245f to 16-245k,
992 inclusive, as amended by this act, in respect to the economic recovery
993 transfer or in respect of disbursements to the General Fund to sustain
994 funding of conservation and load management and renewable energy
995 investment programs or those stranded costs or financed utility services
996 that are eligible to be funded with the proceeds of rate reduction bonds
997 pursuant to section 16-245f, as amended by this act, including, without
998 limitation, the right, title, and interest of an electric distribution

999 company or its transferee or the financing entity (A) in and to the rates
1000 and charges established pursuant to a financing order, as adjusted from
1001 time to time in accordance with subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of
1002 section 16-245i, as amended by this act, and the financing order, (B) to
1003 be paid the amount that is determined in a financing order to be the
1004 amount that the electric distribution company or its transferee or the
1005 financing entity is lawfully entitled to receive pursuant to the provisions
1006 of this section and sections 16-245f to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by
1007 this act, and the proceeds thereof, and in and to all revenues, collections,
1008 claims, payments, money, or proceeds of or arising from the rates and
1009 charges or constituting the competitive transition assessment that is the
1010 subject of a financing order including those nonbypassable rates and
1011 other charges referred to in subdivision (2) of this subsection, and (C) in
1012 and to all rights to obtain adjustments to the rates and charges pursuant
1013 to the terms of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 16-245i, as
1014 amended by this act, and the financing order. "Transition property" shall
1015 constitute a current and irrevocable property right notwithstanding the
1016 fact that the value of the property right will depend on consumers using
1017 electricity or, in those instances where consumers are customers of a
1018 particular electric distribution company, the electric distribution
1019 company performing certain services;

1020 [(13)] (14) "State rate reduction bonds" means the rate reduction
1021 bonds issued on June 23, 2004, by the state to sustain funding of
1022 conservation and load management and renewable energy investment
1023 programs by substituting for disbursements to the General Fund from
1024 the Conservation and Load Management Plan, established by section
1025 16-245m, as amended by this act, and from the Clean Energy Fund,
1026 established by section 16-245n. The state rate reduction bonds for the
1027 purposes of section 4-30a shall be deemed to be outstanding
1028 indebtedness of the state;

1029 [(14)] (15) "Operating expenses" means, with respect to state rate
1030 reduction bonds or economic recovery revenue bonds, (A) all expenses,
1031 costs and liabilities of the state or the trustee incurred in connection with

1032 the administration or payment of the state rate reduction bonds or
1033 economic recovery revenue bonds, or in discharge of its obligations and
1034 duties under the state rate reduction bonds or economic recovery
1035 revenue bonds, or bond documents, expenses and other costs and
1036 expenses arising in connection with the state rate reduction bonds or
1037 economic recovery revenue bonds, or pursuant to the financing order
1038 providing for the issuance of such bonds including any arbitrage rebate
1039 and penalties payable under the code in connection with such bonds,
1040 and (B) all fees and expenses payable or disbursable to the servicers or
1041 others under the bond documents;

1042 [(15)] (16) "Bond documents" means, with respect to state rate
1043 reduction bonds or economic recovery revenue bonds, the following
1044 documents: The servicing agreements, the tax compliance agreement
1045 and certificate, and the continuing disclosure agreement and indenture
1046 entered into in connection with the state rate reduction bonds or the
1047 economic recovery revenue bonds;

1048 [(16)] (17) "Indenture" means the indenture executed in connection
1049 with the state rate reduction bonds or the economic recovery revenue
1050 bonds, or, with respect to state rate reduction bonds, the RRB Indenture,
1051 dated as of June 23, 2004, by and between the state and the trustee, as
1052 amended from time to time;

1053 [(17)] (18) "Trustee" means, with respect to state rate reduction bonds,
1054 the trustee appointed under the indenture;

1055 [(18)] (19) "Economic recovery transfer" means the disbursement to
1056 the General Fund of nine hundred fifty-six million dollars from
1057 proceeds of the issuance of the economic recovery revenue bonds; [and]

1058 [(19)] (20) "Economic recovery revenue bonds" means rate reduction
1059 bonds issued to fund the economic recovery transfer, the costs of
1060 issuance, credit enhancements, operating expenses and such other costs
1061 as the finance authority deems necessary or advisable, and which shall
1062 be payable from competitive transition assessment charges that replace

1063 the competitive transition assessment charges funding stranded costs;

1064 (21) "Financed utility services" means costs determined by the Public
1065 Utilities Regulatory Authority consistent with the principles set forth in
1066 sections 16-11 and 16-19e that (A) do not exceed public necessity or
1067 convenience and have been prudently and efficiently incurred between
1068 the period of January 1, 2018, to January 1, 2025, by an electric
1069 distribution company to prepare for and restore power to customers
1070 following storms, (B) have been or are reasonably expected to not exceed
1071 public necessity or convenience and be prudently and efficiently
1072 incurred after January 1, 2025, by an electric distribution company for
1073 any accelerated initial procurement, installation and operational
1074 deployment of advanced metering infrastructure, including capital
1075 expenses and one-time non-capital operating expenses to implement
1076 and promote customer adoption of advanced metering infrastructure,
1077 including information and education for customers or licenses, fees,
1078 training and other necessary costs, to replace existing traditional
1079 noninterval metering infrastructure utilized by customers of such
1080 company, including any reasonable fees, expenses and transaction costs
1081 incurred in connection with the issuance, servicing, retirement or
1082 refinancing of rate reduction bonds, (C) the unrecovered balance of
1083 legacy infrastructure, including stranded costs, being replaced in
1084 connection with the deployment of advanced metering infrastructure,
1085 and (D) any reasonable fees, expenses and transaction costs incurred in
1086 connection with the issuance, servicing, retirement or refinancing of rate
1087 reduction bonds issued to finance such costs; and

1088 (22) "Advanced metering infrastructure" means an integrated system
1089 of metering equipment, two-way communications networks and
1090 information management systems, including billing and customer
1091 information systems, used by an electric distribution company to collect
1092 and transmit interval or real-time data concerning a customer's energy
1093 consumption.

1094 (b) The authority shall, in accordance with the provisions of this
1095 section, identify and calculate, upon application by an electric

1096 distribution company, those stranded costs or financed utility services
1097 that may be collected through the competitive transition assessment
1098 which shall be calculated and collected in accordance with the
1099 provisions of section 16-245g, as amended by this act. No electric
1100 distribution company shall be eligible to claim stranded costs unless a
1101 public auction has been held to divest itself of all nonnuclear generation
1102 assets or the electric distribution company has sold its nonnuclear
1103 generation assets in accordance with section 16-43.

1104 (c) (1) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section 16-
1105 244g, any electric distribution company seeking to claim stranded costs
1106 shall, in accordance with this subsection, mitigate such costs to the
1107 fullest extent possible. Prior to the approval by the authority of any
1108 stranded costs, the electric distribution company shall show to the
1109 satisfaction of the authority that the electric distribution company has
1110 taken all reasonable steps to mitigate to the maximum extent possible
1111 the total amount of stranded costs that it seeks to claim and to minimize
1112 the cost to be recovered from customers. Mitigation shall include: (A)
1113 Except to the extent provided in collective bargaining agreements or
1114 agreements to purchase generation assets entered into prior to July 1,
1115 1998, the obtaining of written commitments from purchasers of
1116 generation facilities divested pursuant to section 16-244g, that the
1117 purchasers will offer employment to persons who were employed in
1118 nonmanagerial positions by a divested generation facility at any time
1119 during the three-month period prior to the divestiture, at levels of wages
1120 and overall compensation not lower than the employees' lowest level
1121 during the six-month period prior to the date the contract to divest the
1122 asset was entered into; (B) good faith efforts to negotiate the buyout,
1123 buydown or renegotiation of independent power producer contracts
1124 and purchased power contracts approved by the Federal Energy
1125 Regulatory Commission, provided the fixed present value of any
1126 contract to which a political subdivision of the state is a party shall be
1127 calculated using the political subdivision's tax-exempt borrowing rate
1128 as the discount rate; and (C) the reasonable costs of the consultants
1129 appointed to conduct the auctions of generation assets pursuant to

1130 section 16-244g. Mitigation may include, but is not limited to,
1131 reallocation of depreciation reserves to existing generation assets to the
1132 extent consistent with generally accepted accounting principles;
1133 reduction of book assets by application of net proceeds of any sale of
1134 existing assets; maximization of market revenues from existing
1135 generation assets; efforts to maximize current and future operating
1136 efficiency, including appropriate and timely maintenance, trouble
1137 shooting, aggressive identification and correction of potential problem
1138 areas; voluntary write-offs of above-market generation assets; the
1139 decision to retire uneconomical generation assets and efforts to divest
1140 generating sites at market prices reflective of best use of sites. Mitigation
1141 shall not include any expenditures to restart a nuclear generation asset
1142 that was not operating for reasons other than scheduled maintenance or
1143 refueling at the time such expenditure was made. Any mitigation efforts
1144 and associated costs shall be subject to approval by the authority.

1145 (2) The authority shall allow the cost of such mitigation efforts to be
1146 included in the calculation of stranded costs to the extent that such
1147 mitigation costs are reasonable relative to the amount of the reduction
1148 in stranded costs resulting from the mitigation.

1149 (d) An electric distribution company shall submit to the authority an
1150 application for recovery of that portion of generation-related regulatory
1151 assets, long-term contract costs, generation assets and mitigation costs
1152 which are determined by the authority in accordance with subsections
1153 (c), (e), (f) and (g) of this section and subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of
1154 section 16-244g. The application shall include a description of mitigation
1155 efforts and a request for recovery through the competitive transition
1156 assessment and may include a request for a financing order. The
1157 authority shall hold a hearing for each electric distribution company and
1158 issue a finding of the calculation of stranded costs in a time frame that
1159 allows for collection of the competitive transition assessment to begin
1160 on January 1, 2000. Any hearing shall be conducted as a contested case
1161 in accordance with chapter 54.

1162 (e) The authority shall calculate the stranded costs for generation-

1163 related regulatory assets to be their book value as of January 1, 2000. In
1164 calculating the value of generation-related regulatory assets that are
1165 being provided in a lump sum as the result of a funding with the
1166 proceeds of rate reduction bonds, the authority shall adjust the value of
1167 each such asset to reflect the time value of such lump sum, if any.

1168 (f) (1) The authority shall calculate the stranded costs for long-term
1169 contract costs that have been reduced to a fixed present value through
1170 the buyout, buydown, or renegotiation of independent power producer
1171 contracts and purchased power contracts approved by the Federal
1172 Energy Regulatory Commission as such present value. In making such
1173 calculation, the authority shall net purchased power contracts approved
1174 by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission that are below market
1175 value against any such contracts that are above-market value.

1176 (2) The authority shall calculate the stranded costs for any portion of
1177 a long-term contract cost that has not been reduced to a fixed present
1178 value by comparing the contract price to the market price at least
1179 annually. In making such calculation, the authority shall net purchased
1180 power contracts approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory
1181 Commission that are below market value against any such contracts that
1182 are above-market value. The costs described in this subdivision shall be
1183 included in the competitive transition assessment pursuant to section
1184 16-245g, as amended by this act, but shall not be included in any funding
1185 with the proceeds of rate reduction bonds.

1186 (g) The authority shall calculate the stranded cost for each generation
1187 asset to be the difference between its book value and the market value
1188 of a prudently and efficiently managed nonnuclear generating facility
1189 of comparable size, age and technical characteristics in a competitive
1190 market. In determining the market value of any such asset, the authority
1191 may consider (A) the dollars per kilowatt received from the sale of
1192 similar generation facilities, if any, (B) income capitalization based on
1193 the operating history and capacity of the facility, the market rates for
1194 power, and any existing long-term contracts for the sale of power or
1195 capacity, (C) independent market appraisals, or (D) other relevant

1196 factors. The authority shall calculate the stranded costs for generation
1197 assets at least every three years. The costs described in this subsection
1198 shall be included in the competitive transition assessment pursuant to
1199 section 16-245g, as amended by this act, but shall not be included in any
1200 funding with the proceeds of rate reduction bonds.

1201 (h) (1) On or before January 1, 2004, an electric distribution company
1202 may submit to the authority an application for recovery of that portion
1203 of nuclear generation assets which is determined by the authority in
1204 accordance with this subsection, which application shall include a
1205 request for recovery through the competitive transition assessment. The
1206 authority shall hold a hearing for each electric distribution company and
1207 issue a finding of the calculation of such nuclear generation assets in
1208 accordance with the provisions of this subsection. Any hearing shall be
1209 conducted as a contested case proceeding in accordance with chapter
1210 54. The costs described in this subsection shall be included in the
1211 competitive transition assessment pursuant to section 16-245g, as
1212 amended by this act, but shall not be included in any funding with
1213 proceeds of rate reduction bonds.

1214 (2) The authority shall calculate the stranded costs for each nuclear
1215 generation asset that was divested at a price less than book value as
1216 described in subdivision (5) of subsection (c) of section 16-244g as the
1217 difference between the book value of this asset and the final bid price of
1218 the asset. The authority's calculation of stranded costs pursuant to this
1219 subdivision shall be final and shall not be subject to further adjustment
1220 by the authority.

1221 (3) The authority shall calculate the stranded costs for each
1222 nondivested nuclear generation asset described in subdivision (1) of
1223 subsection (d) of section 16-244g to be the difference between its book
1224 value and the market value of a prudently and efficiently managed
1225 nuclear generating facility of comparable size, age and technical
1226 characteristics in a competitive market. In determining the market value
1227 of any such asset, the authority may consider (A) the dollars per kilowatt
1228 received from the sale of similar generation facilities, if any, (B) income

capitalization based on the operating history and capacity of the facility, the market rates for power, and any existing long-term contracts for the sale of power or capacity, (C) the provision for decommissioning and related costs to be paid from the systems benefits charge provided in section 16-245l, (D) independent market appraisals, or (E) other relevant factors. At least every four years after the date when the authority issues an initial finding of the calculation of the stranded costs for such nondivested nuclear generation assets as provided in this subdivision until the earlier of (i) the expiration of the collection of the competitive transition assessment, or (ii) the date when such an asset is divested, the authority shall hold a hearing and issue a finding to adjust the stranded cost calculation of each such asset and to adjust the competitive transition assessment accordingly to true up the stranded cost recovery for the difference between the market value projected in such initial finding and the actual market value of a prudently and efficiently managed nuclear generating facility of comparable size, age and technical characteristics during the time period between the initial finding and the adjustment date, provided the second and subsequent adjustments shall reflect the difference during the time period since the most recent true-up. The authority shall calculate the value of each such asset in accordance with the methodology provided in this subdivision. Any hearing shall be conducted as a contested case in accordance with chapter 54.

(4) After the authority has calculated the total value of stranded costs for all nuclear generation assets, the authority shall (A) reduce such amount by the net proceeds that are above book value realized by an electric distribution company from the sale of nonnuclear generation assets, (B) reduce such valuation to reflect the total net proceeds that are above book value realized by an electric distribution company from the sale of any nuclear generation assets pursuant to subsection (c) of section 16-244g, and (C) reduce such amount by the net proceeds that are above book value received by an electric distribution company for the sale or lease of any real property after July 1, 1998.

1262 (i) If any net proceeds described in subdivision (4) of subsection (h)
1263 of this section remain after the reduction in the calculation of nuclear
1264 generation assets pursuant to said subdivision (4) or are realized after
1265 said reduction is calculated, the additional amount of such net proceeds
1266 shall be netted against long-term contract costs described in subdivision
1267 (2) of subsection (f) of this section, and the competitive transition
1268 assessment shall be adjusted accordingly.

1269 (j) No electric distribution company shall be eligible to claim any
1270 stranded costs for a nuclear generation asset or for any generation-
1271 related regulatory asset related to such generation asset, if the
1272 generation asset is not operating as a result of an order issued by the
1273 United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission that applies specifically
1274 to such asset. Any such asset that is not eligible to be claimed as a
1275 stranded cost shall be eligible after it is permitted to and has resumed
1276 operation and is selling power.

1277 (k) If an electric distribution company elected to transfer any of its
1278 nuclear generation assets and related operations and functions to a
1279 separate corporate affiliate or to a division that is functionally separate
1280 from the electric distribution company pursuant to section 16-244g and
1281 subsequently sold any such assets in an arm's length transaction to an
1282 unrelated entity prior to January 1, 2012, the net proceeds realized from
1283 such sale that exceed book value for such assets shall be netted against
1284 the total amount of stranded costs, and the competitive transition
1285 assessment shall be adjusted accordingly and, if appropriate, other
1286 reimbursement shall be ordered by the authority.

1287 (l) Upon receipt of a petition from an electric distribution company,
1288 or upon its own motion, the authority may determine, at its sole
1289 discretion, that the issuance of rate reduction bonds is in the best interest
1290 of ratepayers. Upon the issuance of a financing order by the authority
1291 that specifies the appropriate amount, timing and terms of such rate
1292 reduction bond issuance, the financing entity shall issue such rate
1293 reduction bonds in accordance with the financing order, provided the
1294 aggregate principal amount of such bonds shall not exceed two billion

1295 two hundred million dollars. Subject to the reconciliation process set
1296 forth in this subsection, the costs of any rate reduction bonds, including
1297 all principal, interest, premium, costs, and arrearages on such bonds,
1298 shall be recovered through the competitive transition assessment
1299 pursuant to section 16-245g, as amended by this act. Upon the issuance
1300 of any rate reduction bonds as ordered by the authority to recover any
1301 financed utility services, the authority shall periodically adjust the
1302 competitive transition assessment in accordance with section 16-245j to
1303 allow, as amended by this act, the recovery of the cost of such bonds,
1304 including through a reconciliation of the actual revenues from the
1305 competitive transition assessment to the actual cost of such bonds. If the
1306 proceeds used to purchase transition property with respect to rate
1307 reduction bonds issued for the deployment of advanced metering
1308 infrastructure is subsequently determined by the authority pursuant to
1309 the standards set forth in sections 16-11, 16-19, as amended by this act,
1310 or 16-19e to exceed the amount prudently and efficiently incurred for
1311 the deployment of advanced metering infrastructure, the total cost of
1312 such bonds resulting from the excess shall be returned to ratepayers,
1313 with interest, in a manner determined by the authority, including by
1314 decreasing another nonbypassable rate charged by such electric
1315 distribution company to proportionately account for such decrease, or
1316 through the revenue decoupling mechanism line item, provided the
1317 competitive transition assessment shall not be decreased in connection
1318 with such reconciliation.

1319 (m) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the net
1320 benefits of accumulated deferred income taxes relating to amounts that
1321 will be recovered through the issuance of rate reduction bonds for
1322 financed utility services shall be credited to retail customers of electric
1323 distribution companies by reducing the amount of such rate reduction
1324 bonds that would otherwise be issued by the net present value of the
1325 related tax cash flows, using a discount rate equal to the expected
1326 interest rate on such rate reduction bonds.

1327 Sec. 12. Subsection (a) of section 16-245f of the general statutes is

1328 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1329 *2025*):

1330 (a) (1) An electric distribution company shall submit to the authority
1331 an application for a financing order with respect to any proposal to
1332 sustain funding of conservation and load management and renewable
1333 energy investment programs by substituting disbursements to the
1334 General Fund from proceeds of rate reduction bonds for such
1335 disbursements from the Conservation and Load Management Plan
1336 established by section 16-245m, as amended by this act, and from the
1337 Clean Energy Fund established by section 16-245n, and may submit to
1338 the authority an application for a financing order with respect to the
1339 following stranded costs: [(1)] (A) The cost of mitigation efforts, as
1340 calculated pursuant to subsection (c) of section 16-245e, as amended by
1341 this act; [(2)] (B) generation-related regulatory assets, as calculated
1342 pursuant to subsection (e) of section 16-245e, as amended by this act;
1343 and [(3)] (C) those long-term contract costs that have been reduced to a
1344 fixed present value through the buyout, buydown, or renegotiation of
1345 such contracts, as calculated pursuant to subsection (f) of section 16-
1346 245e, as amended by this act. No stranded costs shall be funded with the
1347 proceeds of rate reduction bonds unless [(A)] (i) the electric distribution
1348 company proves to the satisfaction of the authority that the savings
1349 attributable to such funding will be directly passed on to customers
1350 through lower rates, and [(B)] (ii) the authority determines such funding
1351 will not result in giving the electric distribution company or any
1352 generation entities or affiliates an unfair competitive advantage.

1353 (2) An electric distribution company may submit to the authority a
1354 petition for a financing order with respect to financed utility services
1355 that have been determined by the authority in a separate proceeding to
1356 be appropriate for cost recovery pursuant to the standards set forth in
1357 section 16-19, as amended by this act, or 16-19e. The authority shall issue
1358 its response to such petition not more than one hundred twenty days
1359 after its receipt of a petition for a financing order pursuant to this
1360 subdivision.

1361 (3) The authority shall hold a hearing for each such electric
1362 distribution company to determine the amount of disbursements to the
1363 General Fund from proceeds of rate reduction bonds that may be
1364 substituted for such disbursements from the Conservation and Load
1365 Management Plan established by section 16-245m, as amended by this
1366 act, and from the Clean Energy Fund established by section 16-245n, and
1367 thereby constitute transition property and the portion of stranded costs
1368 or financed utility services that may be included in such funding and
1369 thereby constitute transition property. Any hearing shall be conducted
1370 as a contested case in accordance with chapter 54, except that any
1371 hearing with respect to a financing order or other order to sustain
1372 funding for conservation and load management and renewable energy
1373 investment programs by substituting the disbursement to the General
1374 Fund from the Conservation and Load Management Plan established by
1375 section 16-245m, as amended by this act, and from the Clean Energy
1376 Investment Fund established by section 16-245n, shall not be a contested
1377 case, as defined in section 4-166. The authority shall not include any rate
1378 reduction bonds as debt of an electric distribution company in
1379 determining the capital structure of the company in a rate-making
1380 proceeding, for calculating the company's return on equity or in any
1381 manner that would impact the electric distribution company for rate-
1382 making purposes, and shall not approve such rate reduction bonds that
1383 include covenants that have provisions prohibiting any change to their
1384 appointment of an administrator of the Conservation and Load
1385 Management Plan.

1386 Sec. 13. Section 16-245g of the general statutes is repealed and the
1387 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1388 (a) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall assess and
1389 beginning January 1, 2000, or a later date determined by the authority
1390 in a finance order with respect to any subsequent issuance of rate
1391 reduction bonds, impose the competitive transition assessment which
1392 shall be imposed on all customers of each electric distribution company
1393 to provide funds for the purposes described in subsection (d) of this

1394 section. The authority shall hold a hearing that shall be conducted as a
1395 contested case in accordance with chapter 54, except as otherwise
1396 provided in section 16-245f, as amended by this act, to determine the
1397 amount of the competitive transition assessment.

1398 (b) The authority shall consider the effect on all customer rates and
1399 other factors relevant to reducing rates in determining the amount of the
1400 competitive transition assessment and the manner in which and the
1401 period over which it shall be imposed in any decision of the authority
1402 to set or adjust the competitive transition assessment.

1403 (c) The competitive transition assessment shall be determined by the
1404 authority in a general and equitable manner and, in accordance with the
1405 provisions of subsection (b) of section 16-245f, shall be imposed on all
1406 customers at a rate that is applied equally to all customers of the same
1407 class in accordance with methods of allocation in effect on July 1, 1998,
1408 or a later date determined by the authority in a finance order with
1409 respect to any subsequent issuance of rate reduction bonds, provided
1410 the competitive transition assessment shall not be imposed on
1411 customers receiving services under a special contract which is in effect
1412 on July 1, 1998, or a later date determined by the authority in a finance
1413 order with respect to any subsequent issuance of rate reduction bonds,
1414 until such special contract expires. The competitive transition
1415 assessment shall be imposed beginning on January 1, 2000, or a later
1416 date determined by the authority in a finance order with respect to any
1417 subsequent issuance of rate reduction bonds, on all customers receiving
1418 services under a special contract [which] that is entered into or renewed
1419 after July 1, 1998, or a later date determined by the authority in a finance
1420 order with respect to any subsequent issuance of rate reduction bonds.
1421 The competitive transition assessment shall have a generally applicable
1422 manner of determination that may be measured on the basis of
1423 percentages of total costs of retail sales of electric generation services.
1424 Subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of section 16-245f, the
1425 competitive transition assessment shall be payable by customers on an
1426 equal basis on the same payment terms and shall be eligible or subject

1427 to prepayment on an equal basis. Any exemption of the competitive
1428 transition assessment by customers under a special contract shall not
1429 result in an increase in rates to any customer.

1430 (d) The authority shall establish, fix and revise the competitive
1431 transition assessment in an amount sufficient at all times to: (1) Pay the
1432 principal of and the interest and any credit enhancement or premium
1433 on rate reduction bonds as the same shall become due and payable; (2)
1434 to pay all reasonable and necessary expenses relating to the financing;
1435 and (3) to pay an electric distribution company stranded costs or
1436 financed utility services that are not funded with the proceeds of rate
1437 reduction bonds and interim capital costs determined under
1438 subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section 16-244g.

1439 (e) The competitive transition assessment shall be charged to
1440 customers until the rate reduction bonds are paid in full, including all
1441 principal, interest, premium, costs and arrearages on such bonds, by the
1442 financing entity and stranded costs and financed utility services not
1443 funded with the proceeds of rate reduction bonds are fully recovered by
1444 the electric distribution company. Amounts collected from a customer
1445 shall be allocated on a pro rata basis among (1) rates and charges
1446 described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of
1447 section 16-245e, as amended by this act, (2) rates and charges described
1448 in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 16-
1449 245e, as amended by this act, and (3) other charges. To the extent that
1450 the authority, when issuing a financing order, determines that special
1451 treatment on customers' bills is necessary or desirable to distinguish
1452 rates and charges described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of
1453 subsection (a) of section 16-245e, as amended by this act, from rates and
1454 charges described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection
1455 (a) of section 16-245e, as amended by this act, in order to facilitate the
1456 successful issuance and sale of rate reduction bonds, it may so provide
1457 as part of such financing order.

1458 Sec. 14. Subsection (a) of section 16-245h of the general statutes is
1459 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*

1460 2025):

1461 (a) The competitive transition assessment described in subparagraph
1462 (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 16-245e, as amended
1463 by this act, shall constitute transition property when, and to the extent
1464 that, a financing order authorizing such portion of the competitive
1465 transition assessment has become effective in accordance with sections
1466 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by this act, and the transition
1467 property shall thereafter continuously exist as property for all purposes
1468 with all of the rights and privileges of sections 16-245e to 16-245k,
1469 inclusive, as amended by this act, for the period and to the extent
1470 provided in the financing order, but in any event until the rate reduction
1471 bonds are paid in full, including all principal, interest, premium, costs,
1472 and arrearages on such bonds. Prior to its sale or other transfer by the
1473 electric distribution company pursuant to sections 16-245e to 16-245k,
1474 inclusive, as amended by this act, transition property, other than
1475 transition property in respect of the economic recovery transfer or in
1476 respect to disbursements to the General Fund to sustain funding of
1477 conservation and load management and renewable energy investment
1478 programs, shall be a vested contract right of the electric distribution
1479 company, notwithstanding any contrary treatment thereof for
1480 accounting, tax, or other purpose. Transition property in respect of
1481 disbursements to the General Fund to sustain funding of conservation
1482 and load management and renewable energy investment programs
1483 shall immediately upon its creation vest solely in the financing entity.
1484 Transition property in respect to the economic recovery transfer shall
1485 immediately upon its creation vest solely in the financing entity.
1486 Notwithstanding the authority's calculation of costs that may be
1487 collected pursuant to subsection (b) of section 16-245e, as amended by
1488 this act, or the adjustment of rates pursuant to subsection (f) of section
1489 16-245e, as amended by this act, transition property in respect to
1490 financed utility services shall immediately upon its creation vest solely
1491 in the applicable electric distribution company. The electric distribution
1492 company shall not include transition property in its calculation of any
1493 rate base and shall have no right, title or interest in transition property

1494 in respect to the economic recovery transfer or in respect of
1495 disbursements to the General Fund to sustain funding of conservation
1496 and load management and renewable energy investment programs, and
1497 in respect of such transition property shall be only a collection agent on
1498 behalf of the financing entity.

1499 Sec. 15. Section 16-245i of the general statutes is repealed and the
1500 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1501 (a) The authority may issue financing orders in accordance with
1502 sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by this act, to fund
1503 the economic recovery transfer, to sustain funding of conservation and
1504 load management and renewable energy investment programs by
1505 substituting disbursements to the General Fund from proceeds of rate
1506 reduction bonds for such disbursements in furtherance of the
1507 Conservation and Load Management Plan established by section 16-
1508 245m, as amended by this act, and from the Clean Energy Fund
1509 established by section 16-245n, and to facilitate the provision, recovery,
1510 financing, or refinancing of stranded costs and financed utility services.
1511 Except for a financing order in respect to the economic recovery revenue
1512 bonds, a financing order may be adopted [only] upon the application of
1513 an electric distribution company or upon the authority's own motion,
1514 pursuant to section 16-245f, as amended by this act, and shall become
1515 effective in accordance with its terms only after the electric distribution
1516 company files with the authority the electric distribution company's
1517 written consent to all terms and conditions of the financing order. Any
1518 financing order in respect to the economic recovery revenue bonds shall
1519 be effective on issuance.

1520 (b) (1) Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule, or regulation
1521 to the contrary, except as otherwise provided in this subsection with
1522 respect to transition property that has been made the basis for the
1523 issuance of rate reduction bonds, the financing orders and the
1524 competitive transition assessment shall be irrevocable and the authority
1525 shall not have authority either by rescinding, altering, or amending the
1526 financing order or otherwise, to revalue or revise for rate-making

1527 purposes the stranded costs and financed utility services, or the costs of
1528 providing, recovering, financing, or refinancing the stranded costs and
1529 financed utility services, the amount of the economic recovery transfer
1530 or the amount of disbursements to the General Fund from proceeds of
1531 rate reduction bonds substituted for such disbursements in furtherance
1532 of the Conservation and Load Management Plan established by section
1533 16-245m, as amended by this act, and from the Clean Energy Fund
1534 established by section 16-245n, determine that the competitive transition
1535 assessment is unjust or unreasonable, or in any way reduce or impair
1536 the value of transition property either directly or indirectly by taking the
1537 competitive transition assessment into account when setting other rates
1538 for the electric distribution company; nor shall the amount of revenues
1539 arising with respect thereto be subject to reduction, impairment,
1540 postponement, or termination.

1541 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the authority
1542 shall approve the adjustments to the competitive transition assessment
1543 as may be necessary to ensure timely recovery of all stranded costs and
1544 financed utility services that are the subject of the pertinent financing
1545 order, and the costs of capital associated with the provision, recovery,
1546 financing [,] or refinancing thereof, including the costs of issuing,
1547 servicing [,] and retiring the rate reduction bonds issued to recover
1548 stranded costs and financed utility services contemplated by the
1549 financing order and to ensure timely recovery of the costs of issuing,
1550 servicing [,] and retiring the rate reduction bonds issued to sustain
1551 funding of conservation and load management and renewable energy
1552 investment programs contemplated by the financing order, and to
1553 ensure timely recovery of the costs of issuing, servicing and retiring the
1554 economic recovery revenue bonds issued to fund the economic recovery
1555 transfer contemplated by the financing order.

1556 (3) Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule, or regulation to
1557 the contrary, any requirement under sections 16-245e to 16-245k,
1558 inclusive, as amended by this act, or a financing order that the authority
1559 take action with respect to the subject matter of a financing order shall

1560 be binding upon the authority, as it may be constituted from time to
1561 time, and any successor agency exercising functions similar to the
1562 authority and the authority shall have no authority to rescind, alter, or
1563 amend that requirement in a financing order. Section 16-43 shall not
1564 apply to any sale, assignment, or other transfer of or grant of a security
1565 interest in any transition property or the issuance of rate reduction
1566 bonds under sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by this
1567 act.

1568 (c) The authority shall provide in any financing order for a procedure
1569 for the timely approval by the authority of periodic adjustments to the
1570 competitive transition assessment that is the subject of the pertinent
1571 financing order, as required by subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this
1572 section. The procedure shall require the authority to determine whether
1573 the adjustments are required on [each anniversary of the issuance of the
1574 financing order] an annual basis, and at the additional intervals as may
1575 be provided for in the financing order, and for the adjustments, if
1576 required, to be approved within ninety days of [each anniversary of the
1577 issuance of the financing order, or of each additional interval] the filing
1578 of each adjustment or within such shorter period as may be provided
1579 for in the financing order.

1580 Sec. 16. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 16-245j of the general
1581 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
1582 (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1583 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the state of
1584 Connecticut does hereby pledge and agree with the owners of transition
1585 property and holders of rate reduction bonds that neither the state nor
1586 any agency of the state shall [neither] limit, [nor] alter, amend, reduce
1587 or impair the competitive transition assessment, transition property,
1588 financing orders, and all rights thereunder until the obligations,
1589 together with the interest thereon, are fully met and discharged,
1590 provided nothing contained in this subsection shall preclude the
1591 limitation or alteration if and when adequate provision shall be made
1592 by law for the protection of the owners and holders. The finance

1593 authority as agent for the state is authorized to include this pledge and
1594 undertaking for the state in these obligations.

1595 (c) (1) Financing orders and rate reduction bonds shall not be deemed
1596 to constitute a debt or liability of the state or of any political subdivision
1597 thereof, other than the financing entity, shall not constitute a pledge of
1598 the full faith and credit of the state or any of its political subdivisions,
1599 other than the financing entity, but shall be payable solely from the
1600 funds provided under sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive, as
1601 amended by this act, and shall not constitute an indebtedness of the state
1602 within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory debt limitation or
1603 restriction and, accordingly, shall not be subject to any statutory
1604 limitation on the indebtedness of the state and shall not be included in
1605 computing the aggregate indebtedness of the state in respect to and to
1606 the extent of any such limitation. This subsection shall in no way
1607 preclude bond guarantees or enhancements pursuant to sections 16-
1608 245e to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by this act. All rate reduction
1609 bonds shall contain on the face thereof a statement to the following
1610 effect: "Neither the full faith and credit nor the taxing power of the State
1611 of Connecticut is pledged to the payment of the principal of, or interest
1612 on, this bond."

1613 (2) The issuance of rate reduction bonds under sections 16-245e to 16-
1614 245k, inclusive, as amended by this act, shall not directly, indirectly, or
1615 contingently obligate the state or any political subdivision thereof to
1616 levy or to pledge any form of taxation therefor or to make any
1617 appropriation for their payment.

1618 (3) The exercise of the powers granted by sections 16-245e to 16-245k,
1619 inclusive, as amended by this act, shall be in all respects for the benefit
1620 of the people of this state, for the increase of their commerce, welfare,
1621 and prosperity, and as the exercise of such powers shall constitute the
1622 performance of an essential public function, neither the finance
1623 authority, any electric distribution company, any affiliate of any electric
1624 distribution company, any financing entity, or any collection or other
1625 agent of any of the foregoing shall be required to pay any taxes or

1626 assessments upon or in respect of any revenues or property received,
1627 acquired, transferred, or used by the finance authority, any electric
1628 distribution company, any affiliate of any electric distribution company,
1629 any financing entity, or any collection or other agent of any of the
1630 foregoing under the provisions of sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive,
1631 as amended by this act, or upon or in respect of the income therefrom,
1632 and any rate reduction bonds shall be treated as issued by or on behalf
1633 of a public instrumentality created under the laws of the state for
1634 purposes of chapter 229.

1635 (4) (A) The proceeds of any rate reduction bonds, other than
1636 economic recovery revenue bonds, shall be used for the purposes
1637 approved by the authority in the financing order, including, but not
1638 limited to, disbursements to the General Fund in substitution for such
1639 disbursements in furtherance of the Conservation and Load
1640 Management Plan established by section 16-245m, as amended by this
1641 act, and from the Clean Energy Fund established by section 16-245n, the
1642 costs of refinancing or retiring of debt of the electric distribution
1643 company, and associated federal and state tax liabilities; provided such
1644 proceeds shall not be applied to purchase generation assets or to
1645 purchase or redeem stock or to pay dividends to parent company
1646 shareholders or to pay operating expenses other than taxes resulting
1647 from the receipt of such proceeds.

1648 (B) The proceeds of any economic recovery revenue bonds shall be
1649 used for the purposes approved by the authority in the financing order,
1650 including, but not limited to, funding the economic recovery transfer,
1651 provided such proceeds shall not be applied to purchase generation
1652 assets or to purchase or redeem stock or to pay dividends to
1653 shareholders or operating expenses other than taxes resulting from the
1654 receipt of such proceeds.

1655 (5) Rate reduction bonds are made and declared (A) securities in
1656 which all public officers and public bodies of the state and its political
1657 subdivisions, all insurance companies, state banks and trust companies,
1658 national banking associations, savings banks, savings and loan

1659 associations, investment companies, executors, administrators, trustees
1660 and other fiduciaries may properly and legally invest funds, including
1661 capital in their control or belonging to them, and (B) securities which
1662 may properly and legally be deposited with and received by any state
1663 or municipal officer or any agency or political subdivision of the state
1664 for any purpose for which the deposit of bonds or obligations of the state
1665 is now or may be authorized.

1666 (6) Rate reduction bonds, other than economic recovery revenue
1667 bonds, shall mature at such time or times approved by the authority in
1668 the financing order. [; provided that such maturity shall not be later than
1669 December 31, 2011.] Economic recovery revenue bonds shall mature at
1670 such time or times approved by the authority in the financing order,
1671 provided such maturity shall not be later than eight years after the date
1672 of issuance, provided such maturity may be extended for economic
1673 reasons, upon the advice of the financing entity.

1674 (7) Rate reduction bonds issued and at any time outstanding may, if
1675 and to the extent permitted under the indenture or other agreement
1676 pursuant to which they are issued, be refunded by other rate reduction
1677 bonds.

1678 Sec. 17. Subsection (l) of section 16-245k of the general statutes is
1679 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1680 *2025*):

1681 (l) [The authority of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority to issue
1682 financing orders pursuant to sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive, shall
1683 expire on December 31, 2008, with respect to bonds other than economic
1684 recovery revenue bonds.] The authority of the Public Utilities
1685 Regulatory Authority to issue financing orders pursuant to sections 16-
1686 245e to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by this act, with respect to
1687 economic recovery revenue bonds shall expire on December 31, 2012.
1688 The expiration of such authority shall have no effect upon any other
1689 financing orders adopted by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
1690 pursuant to sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive, as amended by this

1691 act, or upon any financing orders adopted by the Public Utilities
1692 Regulatory Authority pursuant to sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive,
1693 as amended by this act, with respect to economic recovery bonds prior
1694 to December 31, 2012, or any transition property arising [therefrom]
1695 from any such financing orders, or upon the charges authorized to be
1696 levied thereunder, or the rights, interests, and obligations of the electric
1697 distribution company or a financing entity or holders of rate reduction
1698 bonds pursuant to [the] any such financing order, or the authority of the
1699 Public Utilities Regulatory Authority to monitor, supervise, or take
1700 further action with respect to [the] any such financing order in
1701 accordance with the terms of sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive, as
1702 amended by this act, and of [the] any such financing order.

1703 Sec. 18. Subsection (b) of section 16-19gg of the general statutes is
1704 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
1705 *1, 2025*):

1706 (b) During each proceeding on a rate amendment under section 16-
1707 19, as amended by this act, proposed by an electric distribution
1708 company, gas company or water company, the Public Utilities
1709 Regulatory Authority shall consider the following factors in
1710 determining a reasonable rate of return: (1) Macroeconomic conditions
1711 at the time the rate amendment is pending before the authority; (2) the
1712 company's compliance with state law, regulations and the decisions and
1713 policies of the authority and the Department of Energy and
1714 Environmental Protection; (3) the burden of the public service
1715 company's costs on residential ratepayers, measured as a percentage of
1716 household income, under the current and proposed rate; (4) trends in
1717 the company's accrual of bad debt; (5) the rate impact on all residential
1718 and nonresidential customers; (6) whether the company has benefited
1719 from financing orders pursuant to sections 16-245e to 16-245k, inclusive,
1720 as amended by this act; and [(6)] (7) any other issue deemed relevant by
1721 the authority.

1722 Sec. 19. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) Notwithstanding any
1723 provision of title 16 of the general statutes, the Public Utilities

1724 Regulatory Authority may select the Connecticut Green Bank, the
1725 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the electric
1726 distribution companies, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes,
1727 as amended by this act, a third party that the authority deems
1728 appropriate or any combination thereof to implement any ratepayer-
1729 funded clean energy or renewable energy program established by the
1730 authority in a proceeding. Any such selection shall be based upon the
1731 authority's analysis of record evidence in an uncontested proceeding of
1732 an entity's qualifications and experience administering the same or
1733 comparable programs, projected cost savings, potential administrative
1734 efficiencies, and impact on customer experience associated with each
1735 such entity's implementation of such programs.

1736 Sec. 20. (*Effective from passage*) The Office of Consumer Counsel, in
1737 consultation with the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority and the
1738 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, shall prepare a
1739 report that describes the line items included in the charges known as the
1740 "combined public benefits charges" on a bill to any end use customer of
1741 an electric distribution company, as defined in section 16-1 of the
1742 general statutes, as amended by this act. Such report shall include, but
1743 need not be limited to, an examination of the enabling authority for the
1744 imposition of any such line item, and the purpose, costs and benefits
1745 associated with any such line item. Not later than March 1, 2026, the
1746 Consumer Counsel shall submit a report, in accordance with the
1747 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing
1748 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
1749 relating to energy and technology.

1750 Sec. 21. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 16-19f of the general statutes
1751 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
1752 *1, 2025*):

1753 (a) As used in this section and section 16-243n, as amended by this
1754 act:

1755 (1) "Cost of service" means an electric utility rate for a class of

1756 consumer which is designed, to the maximum extent practicable, to
1757 reflect the cost to the utility in providing electric service to such class;

1758 (2) "Declining block rate" means an electric utility rate for a class of
1759 consumer [which] that prices successive blocks of electricity consumed
1760 by such consumer at lower per-unit prices;

1761 (3) ["Time of day rate"] "Time-varying rate" means an electric utility
1762 rate for a class of consumer [which] that is designed to (A) reflect the
1763 cost to the utility of providing electricity to such consumer at different
1764 times, [of the day] and (B) create a price differential that incentivizes
1765 targeted electric load growth and system efficiency, which may include
1766 critical peak pricing;

1767 (4) "Seasonal rate" means an electric utility rate for a class of consumer
1768 designed to reflect the cost to the utility in providing electricity to such
1769 consumer during different seasons of the year;

1770 [(5) "Electric vehicle time of day rate" means an electric utility rate for
1771 a class of consumer designed to reflect the cost to the utility of providing
1772 electricity to such consumer charging an electric vehicle at an electric
1773 vehicle charging station at different times of the day, but shall not
1774 include demand charges;]

1775 [(6)] (5) "Electric vehicle charging station" means an electric
1776 component assembly or cluster of component assemblies designed
1777 specifically to charge batteries within electric vehicles by permitting the
1778 transfer of electric energy to a battery or other storage device in an
1779 electric vehicle;

1780 [(7)] (6) "Public electric vehicle charging station" means an electric
1781 vehicle charging station located at a publicly available parking space;

1782 [(8)] (7) "Publicly available parking space" means a parking space that
1783 has been designated by a property owner or lessee to be available to,
1784 and accessible by, the public and may include on-street parking spaces
1785 and parking spaces in surface lots or parking garages, but shall not

1786 include: (A) A parking space that is part of, or associated with, a private
1787 residence; (B) a parking space that is reserved for the exclusive use of an
1788 individual driver or vehicle or for a group of drivers or vehicles, such as
1789 employees, tenants, visitors, residents of a common interest
1790 development, or residents of an adjacent building; or (C) a parking
1791 space reserved for persons who are blind and persons with disabilities
1792 as described in section 14-253a;

1793 [(9) "Interruptible rate" means an electric utility rate designed to
1794 reflect the cost to the utility in providing service to a consumer where
1795 such consumer permits his service to be interrupted during periods of
1796 peak electrical demand; and]

1797 [(10)] (8) "Load management techniques" means cost-effective
1798 techniques used by an electric utility to reduce the maximum kilowatt
1799 demand on the [utility] utility's system or shift the demand to maximize
1800 electric grid efficiency, as determined by the authority;

1801 (9) "On-peak" means a period likely to capture the regional
1802 independent system operator and electric distribution system peaks or
1803 to incentivize the cost-effective shifting of load to maximize grid
1804 efficiency, as determined by the authority;

1805 (10) "Critical peak" means a period when system costs are highest or
1806 when the power grid is severely stressed and electric customers may
1807 pay higher prices as a result of such stress; and

1808 (11) "Default rate" means the electric utility rate in which a consumer
1809 is enrolled at the start of service if the consumer does not specify a
1810 preferred rate.

1811 (b) [The] Not later than October 1, 2027, the Public Utilities
1812 Regulatory Authority shall, with respect to each electric public service
1813 company, [shall (1) within two years, consider and determine whether
1814 it is appropriate to implement any of the following rate design
1815 standards: (A) Cost of service; (B) prohibition of declining block rates;
1816 (C) time of day rates; (D) seasonal rates; (E) interruptible rates; and (F)

1817 load management techniques, and (2) not later than June 1, 2017,
1818 consider and determine whether it is appropriate to implement electric
1819 vehicle time of day rates] initiate a docket or dockets for the purpose of
1820 evaluating applications submitted by the electric distribution
1821 companies for the implementation of time-varying rates for residential
1822 and commercial customers. The [consideration of said standards by the
1823 authority shall be made] authority may implement such rates after
1824 public notice and hearing. Such hearing may be held concurrently with
1825 a hearing required pursuant to subsection (b) of section 16-19e. [The]
1826 Upon submission of proposed time-varying rates by each electric
1827 distribution company, the authority shall [make a determination on]
1828 evaluate whether it is appropriate to implement any [of said standards]
1829 time-varying rate. Said determination shall be in writing, shall take into
1830 consideration the evidence presented at the hearing and shall be
1831 available to the public. A [standard] time-varying rate shall be deemed
1832 to be appropriate for implementation if such rate is in the best interest
1833 of ratepayers. The authority shall consider (1) if the benefits of the rate
1834 exceed the costs of implementing such rate, including but not limited to
1835 any capital investments necessary to implement such rate, (2) if such
1836 implementation would encourage energy conservation, optimal and
1837 efficient use of facilities and resources by an electric public service
1838 company, [and] (3) equitable rates for electric consumers approved by
1839 the authority, and (4) any other considerations the authority deems
1840 appropriate to determine whether such rate is in the best interest of the
1841 ratepayers.

1842 Sec. 22. Section 16-243n of the general statutes is repealed and the
1843 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

1844 (a) Not later than October 1, [2005] 2027, each electric distribution
1845 company, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, shall submit
1846 an application to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority to [(1) on or
1847 before January 1, 2007,] implement [time-of-use] time-varying rates for
1848 (1) residential customers, [that have a maximum demand of not less
1849 than three hundred fifty kilowatts that may include, but not be limited

1850 to, mandatory peak, shoulder and off-peak time-of-use rates, and (2) on
1851 or before June 1, 2006, offer optional interruptible or load response rates
1852 for customers that have a maximum demand of not less than three
1853 hundred fifty kilowatts and offer optional seasonal and time-of-use
1854 rates for all customers. The application shall propose to establish time-
1855 of-use rates through a procurement plan, revenue neutral adjustments
1856 to delivery rates, or both] and (2) commercial and industrial customers.

1857 (b) [Not later than November 1, 2005, each electric distribution
1858 company shall submit an application to the Public Utilities Regulatory
1859 Authority to implement mandatory seasonal rates for all customers
1860 beginning April 1, 2007.] (1) Time-varying rate proposals for
1861 transmission, distribution and all other retail electric rate components
1862 submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall (A) provide for
1863 fixed rates across twenty-four-hour cycles within each season, (B) be
1864 based on projected seasonal demand and include on-peak rates, and (C)
1865 adequately incentivize the cost-effective shifting of load to off-peak
1866 periods by applying an appropriate price differential between on-peak
1867 and off-peak time-varying rates. The design of such rates, including the
1868 price differential between on-peak and off-peak time-varying rates,
1869 shall be consistent with empirical research conducted by the electric
1870 distribution company and other rate-design experts.

1871 (2) Any application submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of this
1872 section that proposes a seasonal rate component to such time-varying
1873 rates shall submit the following concerning such proposed seasonal
1874 rates: (A) Any proposal for differentiation of generation, transmission
1875 and distribution energy and demand rates (i) into summer and
1876 nonsummer periods, at a minimum, and if cost differences between
1877 summer and nonsummer periods are substantial, (ii) into winter and
1878 shoulder month periods, with consideration of projected electric
1879 customer acceptance and usage of such rates, and (B) the appropriate
1880 phase-in period over which time electric customers may adjust to
1881 seasonal rates without experiencing a sudden, significant increase in
1882 electricity prices.

1883 (3) Any application submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of this
1884 section shall propose to establish (A) such time-varying rates through
1885 an approved revenue recovery mechanism for transmission and
1886 distribution rates, and (B) a revenue reconciliation mechanism whereby
1887 any revenue undercollected or overcollected through such time-varying
1888 rates is recovered or refunded, as appropriate, through a subsequent
1889 billing reconciliation adjustment.

1890 (4) Time-varying rates submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of this
1891 section shall be designed as default rates, with consideration for
1892 principles of gradualism and customer acceptance and established
1893 exceptions as deemed appropriate by the authority, including but not
1894 limited to, for medically protected and financial hardship customers,
1895 and provided the application (A) proposes a comprehensive customer
1896 education program that meets the requirements of section 23 of this act;
1897 (B) provides for a clearly defined opt-out process concerning such rates;
1898 and (C) gives due consideration to the interaction of any time-varying
1899 rate design with existing and foreseeable low-income rates and
1900 programs.

1901 (c) The authority shall hold a hearing that shall be conducted as a
1902 contested case, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to
1903 approve, reject or modify applications submitted pursuant to subsection
1904 (a) [or (b)] of this section. No application for [time-of-use] time-varying
1905 rates shall be approved by the authority unless (1) such rates reasonably
1906 reflect the cost of service during their respective [time-of-use] time-
1907 varying periods, [and] (2) the costs associated with implementation, the
1908 impact on customers and benefits to the utility system justify
1909 implementation of such rates, and (3) such rates are expected to alter
1910 patterns of customer consumption of electricity without undue adverse
1911 effect on the customer.

1912 (d) Each electric distribution company shall assist customers to help
1913 manage loads and reduce peak consumption through the
1914 comprehensive plan developed pursuant to section 16-245m, as
1915 amended by this act.

1916 Sec. 23. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) Each electric distribution
1917 company, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, as amended
1918 by this act, shall, in consultation with the Office of Consumer Counsel
1919 and the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, design
1920 a comprehensive customer education and engagement program for the
1921 purpose of informing electric distribution customers of the benefits of
1922 time-varying rates and encouraging such customers to utilize such rates
1923 and any available technology that enables the realization of customer
1924 cost savings on such time-varying rates. The customer education and
1925 engagement program design shall include (1) approved methods of
1926 customer outreach, education and engagement activities, including
1927 strategies to maximize customer cost savings, (2) objective performance
1928 standards regarding the program's implementation, and (3) mandatory
1929 reporting requirements for electric distribution companies concerning
1930 such companies' compliance with the program requirements, including
1931 the submission of documentation and data as required by the Public
1932 Utilities Regulatory Authority.

1933 (b) In any rate case initiated on or after July 1, 2025, an electric
1934 distribution company shall submit as part of its rate amendment
1935 application a detailed proposal, or an update to a proposal previously
1936 approved pursuant to this subsection, to develop the program required
1937 under subsection (a) of this section for review and approval by the
1938 authority. Upon approval by the authority, the program shall be
1939 administered by the electric distribution companies.

1940 Sec. 24. Section 16-32e of the general statutes is repealed and the
1941 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

1942 (a) As used in this section, "emergency" means any (1) hurricane,
1943 tornado, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave,
1944 tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide,
1945 snowstorm, drought, wildfire or fire explosion, or (2) attack or series of
1946 attacks by an enemy of the United States causing, or which may cause,
1947 substantial damage or injury to civilian property or persons in the
1948 United States in any manner by sabotage or by the use of bombs,

1949 shellfire or atomic, radiological, chemical, bacteriological or biological
1950 means or other weapons or processes.

1951 (b) Not later than July 1, 2012, and every two years thereafter, each
1952 public service company, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this
1953 act, each telecommunications company, as defined in section 16-1, as
1954 amended by this act, that installs, maintains, operates or controls poles,
1955 wires, conduits or other fixtures under or over any public highway for
1956 the provision of telecommunications service authorized by section 16-
1957 247c, each voice over Internet protocol service provider, as defined in
1958 section 28-30b, and each municipal utility furnishing electric, gas or
1959 water service shall file with the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority,
1960 the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection and each
1961 municipality located within the service area of the public service
1962 company, telecommunications company, voice over Internet protocol
1963 service provider or municipal utility an updated plan for restoring
1964 service which is interrupted as a result of an emergency, except no such
1965 plan shall be required of a public service company or municipal utility
1966 that submits a water supply plan pursuant to section 25-32d. Plans filed
1967 by public service companies and municipal utilities furnishing water
1968 shall be prepared in accordance with the memorandum of
1969 understanding entered into pursuant to section 4-67e.

1970 (c) (1) Each electric distribution company required to file a plan for
1971 restoring service pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall establish
1972 an emergency service restoration planning committee to prepare such
1973 plan. Not less than fifty per cent of the members of such committee shall
1974 be line and restoration crew members employed by such company. The
1975 balance of the members appointed to such committee shall be appointed
1976 by such company. Each such emergency service restoration planning
1977 committee shall meet not later than sixty days after the occurrence of
1978 any emergency that results in a service interruption to thirty per cent or
1979 more of the customers of such company to review and provide feedback
1980 on the application of the plan and incorporate such feedback into plans
1981 for future emergencies.

1982 (2) If line and restoration crew members employed by such company
1983 are members of a collective bargaining unit, the collective bargaining
1984 unit shall select the line and restoration crew members appointed to
1985 such committee. If such line and restoration crew members are not
1986 members of a collective bargaining unit, the line and crew members
1987 appointed to such committee shall be selected through a process
1988 determined by the line and crew members employed by such company.

1989 (3) A committee established pursuant to this subsection shall have
1990 two co-chairpersons, one of whom shall be a line and restoration crew
1991 member employed by such company elected by the members of the
1992 committee who are line and restoration crew members, and one of
1993 whom shall be elected by the members of the committee who are not
1994 line and restoration crew members.

1995 (4) A committee established pursuant to this subsection shall make a
1996 written meeting summary of each meeting and make such summaries
1997 available to any employee of such company upon request and submit
1998 such summaries to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority and the
1999 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection upon request.
2000 A majority of the members of the committee shall constitute a quorum
2001 for the transaction of committee business. Decisions of the committee
2002 shall be made by majority vote of the members present at any meeting.

2003 (d) Each such plan for restoring service which is interrupted as a
2004 result of an emergency shall include measures for (1) communication
2005 and coordination with state officials, municipalities and other public
2006 service companies and telecommunications companies during a major
2007 disaster, as defined in section 28-1, or an emergency; [and] (2)
2008 participation in training exercises as directed by the Commissioner of
2009 Emergency Services and Public Protection; (3) measures to protect the
2010 health and safety of line and restoration crews during an emergency and
2011 during the restoration of service, including the provision of appropriate
2012 personal protective equipment and any such measures that are
2013 contained in a collective bargaining agreement or other health and
2014 safety policies applicable to such crews; and (4) referencing any

2015 applicable documents, including collective bargaining agreements in
2016 effect that describe any training and skills job progression plan, or other
2017 comparable documents, for line and restoration workers. If line and
2018 restoration crew members are members of a collective bargaining unit,
2019 such training and skills job progression plans, or other comparable
2020 documents, shall be jointly developed by the company and such
2021 collective bargaining unit. Each such plan shall include such company's,
2022 provider's or municipal utility's response for service outages affecting
2023 more than ten per cent, thirty per cent, fifty per cent and seventy per
2024 cent of such company's, provider's or municipal utility's customers. On
2025 or before September 1, 2012, and biannually thereafter, the authority
2026 shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint
2027 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
2028 matters relating to public utilities summarizing such plans. Not later
2029 than September 15, 2012, and every two years thereafter, the Public
2030 Utilities Regulatory Authority may conduct public hearings on such
2031 plans and, in consultation with the Department of Emergency Services
2032 and Public Protection, the Department of Public Health and the joint
2033 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
2034 matters relating to public utilities, revise such plans to the extent
2035 necessary to provide properly for the public convenience, necessity and
2036 welfare. If the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority revises the
2037 emergency plan of a public service company, telecommunications
2038 company, voice over Internet protocol service provider or municipal
2039 utility, such company, provider or municipal utility shall file a copy of
2040 the revised plan with each municipality located within the service area
2041 of the company, provider or municipal utility. Any information
2042 provided in any such plan shall be considered confidential, not subject
2043 to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in
2044 section 1-200, and any such information shall not be transmitted to any
2045 person except as needed to comply with this section.

2046 [(c)] (e) At the discretion of the Commissioner of Emergency Services
2047 and Public Protection or after an emergency or major disaster is declared
2048 in the state by the Governor under the laws of this state or by the

2049 President of the United States under federal law, each telephone
2050 company, certified telecommunications provider, holder of a certificate
2051 of video franchise authority or holder of a certificate of cable franchise
2052 authority, as those terms are defined in section 16-1, as amended by this
2053 act, with more than twenty-five thousand subscribers, shall provide a
2054 representative to staff the emergency operations center of an affected
2055 electric distribution company, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by
2056 this act, as needed to ensure communication and coordination during
2057 emergency response and restoration efforts.

2058 Sec. 25. Section 16-32*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the
2059 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2060 (a) For the purposes of this section:

2061 (1) "Emergency" means any hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high
2062 water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, earthquake, landslide, mudslide,
2063 snowstorm, drought, wildfire or fire explosion that results in sixty-nine
2064 per cent or less of the electric distribution company's customers
2065 experiencing an outage at the period of peak electrical demand;

2066 (2) "Electric distribution company" has the same meaning as
2067 provided in section 16-1, as amended by this act; and

2068 (3) "After the occurrence of an emergency" means the conclusion of
2069 the emergency, as determined by the authority in its discretion, through
2070 a review of the following: (A) The time when the electric distribution
2071 company could first deploy resources safely in its service territory; (B)
2072 the first of any official declarations concerning the end of the emergency;
2073 or (C) the expiration of the first of any National Weather Service
2074 warning applicable to the service territory.

2075 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of the general statutes, on
2076 and after July 1, 2021, each electric distribution company shall provide
2077 to residential customers of such company a credit of twenty-five dollars,
2078 on the balance of such customer's account, for each day of distribution-
2079 system service outage that occurs for such customers for more than

2080 ninety-six consecutive hours after the occurrence of an emergency.

2081 (c) Any costs incurred by an electric distribution company pursuant
2082 to this section shall not be recoverable.

2083 (d) Not later than fourteen calendar days after the occurrence of an
2084 emergency, an electric distribution company may petition the authority
2085 for a waiver of the requirements of this section. Any petition for a waiver
2086 made under this subsection shall include the severity of the emergency,
2087 line and restoration crew safety issues and conditions on the ground,
2088 and shall be conducted as a contested case proceeding. The burden of
2089 proving that such waiver is reasonable and warranted shall be on the
2090 electric distribution company. In determining whether to grant such
2091 waiver, the authority shall consider whether the electric distribution
2092 company received approval and reasonable funding allowances, as
2093 determined by the authority, to meet infrastructure resiliency efforts to
2094 improve such company's performance.

2095 (e) No electric distribution company shall require any line and
2096 restoration crew member to work in unsafe conditions to avoid
2097 providing credits to customer accounts pursuant to subsection (b) of this
2098 section or for any other reason, and line or restoration crew member
2099 employed by such company may be disciplined, terminated, have
2100 wages withheld or otherwise be punished for refusing to perform
2101 restoration duties during such conditions.

2102 [(e)] (f) On or before January 1, 2021, the Public Utilities Regulatory
2103 Authority shall initiate a proceeding to consider the implementation of
2104 the residential customer credit and waiver provisions of this section and
2105 establish circumstances, standards and methodologies applicable to
2106 each electric distribution company and necessary to implement the
2107 provisions of this section, including any modifications to the ninety-six-
2108 consecutive-hour standard in subsection (b) of this section. The
2109 authority shall issue a final decision in such proceeding on or before July
2110 1, 2021.

2111 Sec. 26. Section 16-32m of the general statutes is repealed and the
2112 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2113 (a) For the purposes of this section:

2114 (1) "Emergency" means any hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high
2115 water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, earthquake, landslide, mudslide,
2116 snowstorm, drought, wildfire or fire explosion that results in sixty-nine
2117 per cent or less of the electric distribution company's customers
2118 experiencing an outage at the period of peak electrical demand;

2119 (2) "Electric distribution company" has the same meaning as
2120 provided in section 16-1, as amended by this act; and

2121 (3) "After the occurrence of an emergency" means the conclusion of
2122 the emergency, as determined by the authority in its discretion, through
2123 a review of the following: (A) The time when the electric distribution
2124 company could first deploy resources safely in its service territory; (B)
2125 the first of any official declarations concerning the end of the emergency;
2126 or (C) the expiration of the first of any National Weather Service
2127 warning applicable to the service territory.

2128 (b) On and after July 1, 2021, each electric distribution company shall
2129 provide to each residential customer compensation in an amount of two
2130 hundred fifty dollars, in the aggregate, for any medication and food that
2131 expires or spoils due to a distribution-system service outage that lasts
2132 more than ninety-six consecutive hours in duration after the occurrence
2133 of an emergency.

2134 (c) Any costs incurred by an electric distribution company pursuant
2135 to this section shall not be recoverable.

2136 (d) Not later than fourteen calendar days after the occurrence of an
2137 emergency, an electric distribution company may petition the authority
2138 for a waiver of the requirements of this section. Any petition for a waiver
2139 made under this subsection shall include the severity of the emergency,
2140 line and restoration crew safety issues and conditions on the ground,

2141 and shall be conducted as a contested case proceeding. The burden of
2142 proving that such waiver is reasonable and warranted shall be on the
2143 electric distribution company. In determining whether to grant such
2144 waiver, the authority shall consider whether the electric distribution
2145 company received approval and reasonable funding allowances, as
2146 determined by the authority, to meet infrastructure resiliency efforts to
2147 improve such company's performance.

2148 (e) No electric distribution company shall require any line and
2149 restoration crew member to work in unsafe conditions to avoid
2150 providing credits to customer accounts pursuant to subsection (b) of this
2151 section or for any other reason, and no line or restoration crew member
2152 employed by such company may be disciplined, terminated, have
2153 wages withheld or otherwise be punished for refusing to perform
2154 restoration duties during such conditions.

2155 [(e)] (f) On or before January 1, 2021, the Public Utilities Regulatory
2156 Authority shall initiate a proceeding to consider the implementation of
2157 the compensation reimbursement and waiver provisions of this section
2158 and establish circumstances, standards and methodologies applicable to
2159 each electric distribution company and necessary to implement the
2160 provisions of this section, including any modifications to the ninety-six-
2161 consecutive-hour standard in subsection (b) of this section. The
2162 authority shall issue a final decision in such proceeding on or before July
2163 1, 2021.

2164 Sec. 27. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section
2165 and section 28 of this act:

2166 (1) "Advanced conductor" means any conductor material, design or
2167 technology that (A) improves the electrical performance of electrical
2168 conductors in comparison to traditional aluminum-conductor steel-
2169 reinforced cable, and (B) optimizes attributes such as current-carrying
2170 capacity, thermal performance, weight, sag, durability, corrosion
2171 resistance and efficiency, using materials such as high-conductivity
2172 alloys and conductor designs such as trapezoidal designs;

2173 (2) "Advanced power flow control" means any hardware or software
2174 technologies used to push or pull electric power in a manner that
2175 balances electric lines that are either exceeding capacity or are
2176 underutilized within the distribution or transmission system;

2177 (3) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Energy and
2178 Environmental Protection;

2179 (4) "Dynamic line rating" means any hardware or software
2180 technologies used to update the calculated thermal limits of existing
2181 distribution or transmission lines in the state based on real-time and
2182 forecasted weather conditions;

2183 (5) "Electric distribution company" and "regional independent system
2184 operator" have the same meanings as provided in section 16-1 of the
2185 general statutes, as amended by this act;

2186 (6) "Grid-enhancing technology" means any hardware or software
2187 technology that increases the capacity of, or enables enhanced or more
2188 efficient performance from, the electric distribution or transmission
2189 system in the state, including, but not limited to, dynamic line rating,
2190 advanced power flow control, topology optimization and energy
2191 storage when used as a distribution or transmission resource;

2192 (7) "Transmission owner" means any person or entity that owns,
2193 operates and maintains, or seeks to construct, an electric transmission
2194 facility in the state and that is not an electric distribution company;

2195 (8) "Materially modify" means any construction activity relating to a
2196 facility described in subdivision (1) or (4) of subsection (a) of section 16-
2197 50i of the general statutes with an estimated cost of not less than twenty-
2198 five million dollars. "Materially modify" does not include construction
2199 activities related to an emergency condition that causes a disruption of
2200 power or other unplanned loss of an essential transmission asset
2201 function that requires immediate rectification;

2202 (9) "Nontransmission alternative" means an electric grid investment

2203 or project that uses nontraditional transmission and distribution
2204 solutions, including, but not limited to, distributed generation, energy
2205 storage, energy efficiency demand response and grid software and
2206 controls, to defer or replace the need for specific equipment upgrades,
2207 such as transmission and distribution lines or transformers, by reducing
2208 electric load at a substation or circuit level; and

2209 (10) "Topology optimization" means any hardware or software
2210 technology that identifies reconfigurations of the distribution or
2211 transmission grid in the state to enable the routing of power flows
2212 around congested or overloaded elements of the electric grid.

2213 (b) (1) Any electric distribution company or transmission owner that
2214 seeks to construct or materially modify any facility described in
2215 subdivision (1) or (4) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i of the general
2216 statutes, shall, in addition to the primary proposed project for such
2217 construction or material modification, develop at least one project
2218 alternative to such construction or modification that (A) utilizes an
2219 advanced conductor unless the primary proposed project incorporates
2220 an advanced conductor, and (B) utilizes grid-enhancing technology or
2221 nontransmission alternative technology, applicable in whole or in part,
2222 to such construction or material modification.

2223 (2) Such company or owner shall submit each project alternative
2224 required under subdivision (1) of this subsection with any application
2225 or petition submitted by such company or owner to the Connecticut
2226 Siting Council concerning such construction or material modification. If
2227 any such project alternative is not preferred by such company or owner,
2228 such company or owner shall provide a detailed, written explanation
2229 comparing the cost-effectiveness and appropriateness of the project
2230 alternative with such project preferred by such company or owner and
2231 submit such explanation with such application.

2232 (3) If any project alternative submitted pursuant to this subsection
2233 proposes to utilize any advanced conductor, grid-enhancing technology
2234 or nontransmission alternative, and such project alternative (A) is not

2235 less cost effective than the project preferred by such company or owner,
2236 (B) provides the same or increased electric system reliability benefits to
2237 solve the identified need in comparison to such preferred project, and
2238 (C) has similar environmental and community impacts as such
2239 preferred project, as determined by the Connecticut Siting Council, the
2240 council shall give preference to such project alternative when
2241 determining whether to approve such preferred project or project
2242 alternative.

2243 (4) An electric distribution company may seek a waiver of the
2244 requirements of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) in this section, in whole
2245 or in part, if (A) the use of advanced conductors, grid-enhancing
2246 technologies or nontransmission alternative technologies in a project to
2247 construct or materially modify any facility described in subdivision (1)
2248 or (4) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i of the general statutes is
2249 impossible or impracticable to solve an identified need, (B) such
2250 proposed project is subject to a regional transmission planning or
2251 review process approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory
2252 Commission that adequately considers the implementation of such
2253 conductors or technologies, or (C) a project has been evaluated by the
2254 commissioner and the Office of Consumer Counsel pursuant to
2255 subsection (d) of this section. To obtain such waiver, such company shall
2256 submit a waiver application to the commissioner in a form and manner
2257 prescribed by the commissioner. Such waiver application shall specify
2258 the conditions that satisfy the requirements of subparagraphs (A), (B) or
2259 (C) of this subdivision. The commissioner, after consultation with the
2260 Office of Consumer Counsel, may waive the requirement to submit such
2261 alternative or alternatives pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b)
2262 of this section to the Connecticut Siting Council. The commissioner shall
2263 accept or deny a waiver application submitted pursuant to this
2264 subdivision not more than sixty days after receipt. Any such application
2265 not accepted or rejected by the commissioner within said sixty-day
2266 period shall be deemed granted.

2267 (5) An electric distribution company may request, and the

2268 commissioner may grant, a revocable general waiver of the
2269 requirements of this subsection for any projects subject to a regional
2270 transmission planning or review process approved by the Federal
2271 Energy Regulatory Commission that adequately considers advanced
2272 conductors, grid-enhancing technologies or nontransmission alternative
2273 technologies. The commissioner shall accept or deny a waiver
2274 application submitted pursuant to this subdivision not more than sixty
2275 days after receipt.

2276 (c) Each electric distribution company and transmission owner shall
2277 include in the annual report required by subsection (a) of section 16-50r
2278 of the general statutes: (1) A schedule of any planned construction or
2279 material modification of any facility described in subdivision (1) or (4)
2280 of subsection (a) of section 16-50i of the general statutes for the next ten
2281 years, including a description, as appropriate for the project's current
2282 development stage, and, to the extent available, of the need for and
2283 scope of the project, cost estimates, whether and how any advanced
2284 conductor, grid-enhancing technologies or nontransmission alternative
2285 technologies may be considered to address the identified need, and any
2286 other information reasonably requested by the commissioner or the
2287 Office of Consumer Counsel that pertains to the projects identified in
2288 the annual report, (2) data concerning any construction or material
2289 modification of any facility described in subdivision (1) or (4) of
2290 subsection (a) of section 16-50i of the general statutes placed in service
2291 by such company in the year preceding such report, including both final
2292 costs, to the extent available, and estimated costs of the project at each
2293 relevant design stage, (3) the original estimated in-service date of the
2294 facility, and (4) any other information reasonably requested by the
2295 commissioner or the Office of Consumer Counsel pertaining to projects
2296 disclosed in such report. For the first filing after the effective date of this
2297 section, each electric distribution company shall provide the
2298 information required by subdivision (2) of this subsection for any
2299 facility placed into service by such company or owner on or after
2300 January 1, 2022. To the extent any such information is unavailable, the
2301 electric distribution company shall notify the commissioner and the

2302 Office of Consumer Counsel and attempt to reach a resolution
2303 acceptable to each party concerning the request for information.

2304 (d) (1) Not more than one hundred eighty days after any annual filing
2305 required pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the commissioner, in
2306 consultation with the Office of Consumer Counsel, shall determine and
2307 notify an electric distribution company whether any facility listed for
2308 construction or material modification requires further evaluation,
2309 considering factors including, but not limited to, (A) whether the
2310 proposed facility is subject to a transmission planning or review process
2311 of the regional independent system operator or a substantially similar
2312 process, (B) the age or condition of the underlying facility, (C) the scope
2313 and estimated cost of the proposed project, (D) whether the proposed
2314 project is responsive to needs identified through proactive transmission
2315 planning by the regional independent system operator, and (E) whether
2316 and how advanced conductors, grid-enhancing technologies and
2317 nontransmission alternatives: (i) Are proposed to be utilized in the
2318 proposed project, (ii) can reduce environmental or aesthetic impacts,
2319 and (iii) can feasibly solve the underlying need identified by the electric
2320 distribution company in part or in whole. Prior to determining that a
2321 project to construct or materially modify a facility requires further
2322 evaluation pursuant to this subdivision, the commissioner and Office of
2323 Consumer Counsel shall provide the electric distribution company with
2324 the opportunity to provide evidence that such project requires no
2325 further evaluation pursuant to this subdivision.

2326 (2) If an evaluation is conducted pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
2327 subsection, upon notice to the electric distribution company, the
2328 commissioner and the Office of Consumer Counsel shall evaluate a
2329 proposed project based upon factors including: (A) The reasonableness
2330 of the need identified by the electric distribution company justifying the
2331 proposed facility; (B) the reasonableness of the proposed scope of the
2332 project, including the timing of the proposed investments; (C) whether
2333 the electric distribution company's proposed solution is the most cost-
2334 effective solution to the identified need or whether alternative solutions,

2335 including advanced conductors, grid-enhancing technologies or
2336 nontransmission alternatives, exist that could more cost-effectively
2337 provide the same or increased electric system reliability benefits to
2338 resolve the identified need in whole or in part; (D) the costs of the
2339 proposed project and any potential alternatives identified as part of the
2340 evaluation; (E) whether cost-effective opportunities exist for the
2341 proposed project to be modified to account for future demand growth
2342 or other variables that could mitigate the need for the electric
2343 distribution company to conduct construction activities on the same
2344 facility prior to the end of the useful life; and (F) any other factors that
2345 the commissioner or the Office of Consumer Counsel reasonably
2346 determine are necessary to evaluate for a specific project.

2347 (3) Not less than twice per year, the commissioner and the Office of
2348 Consumer Counsel shall meet with each electric distribution company
2349 to discuss and receive input on any facilities that are currently under
2350 evaluation pursuant to this section.

2351 (4) (A) The commissioner and the Office of Consumer Counsel shall
2352 jointly prepare a report detailing the factors for evaluation listed in
2353 subdivision (2) of this subsection.

2354 (B) Any evaluation by the department or the Office of Consumer
2355 Counsel and any draft report resulting from that evaluation must be
2356 completed and shared with the electric distribution companies no later
2357 than ninety days prior to an electric distribution company's filing of an
2358 application or petition before the Connecticut Siting Council; provided,
2359 however, that the electric distribution company informs the department
2360 and the Office of Consumer Counsel of the anticipated filing date not
2361 less than twelve months in advance of such filing date.

2362 (C) The commissioner shall file any final report developed pursuant
2363 to this subsection in the relevant proceeding of the Connecticut Siting
2364 Council concerning the proposed project. The Connecticut Siting
2365 Council shall give appropriate consideration to such report in making
2366 its determination on the proposed project.

2367 (5) An electric distribution company may request, and the
2368 commissioner may grant, a revocable general waiver of the
2369 requirements of this subsection for any projects subject to a regional
2370 transmission planning or review process approved by the Federal
2371 Energy Regulatory Commission. The commissioner shall accept or deny
2372 a waiver application submitted pursuant to this subdivision not more
2373 than sixty days after receipt.

2374 (e) Each electric distribution company or transmission owner shall
2375 provide data, communications and information requested by the
2376 commissioner or the Office of Consumer Counsel in connection with
2377 any evaluation pursuant to this section, subject to enforcement under
2378 section 22a-6 of the general statutes. Responses to any such requests
2379 shall be shared with both the department and the Office of Consumer
2380 Counsel.

2381 (f) Beginning on January 1, 2027, and every five years thereafter, each
2382 electric distribution company and transmission owner shall file a report
2383 concerning their compliance with the provisions of this section with the
2384 Public Utilities Regulatory Authority. The authority shall transmit a
2385 copy of each such report to the regional independent system operator,
2386 as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, as amended by this act,
2387 and, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
2388 statutes, the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
2389 cognizance of matters relating to energy and technology.

2390 (g) Any proprietary commercial or proprietary financial information
2391 of an electric distribution company or transmission owner provided
2392 pursuant to this section shall be confidential and protected by the
2393 commissioner and the Office of Consumer Counsel and be exempt from
2394 public disclosure pursuant to subsection (b) of section 1-210 of the
2395 general statutes.

2396 Sec. 28. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) In any base rate or capital
2397 improvement proceeding before the Public Utilities Regulatory
2398 Authority, an electric distribution company shall submit a report to the

2399 authority that analyzes the cost-effectiveness of, and projected
2400 timetables for, deploying grid-enhancing technologies, advanced
2401 conductors, energy storage or other non-wire alternatives relevant to
2402 such company's operations or capital investments. Such report may
2403 include, but need not be limited to, proposed performance incentive
2404 mechanisms for the cost-effective deployment of such technologies,
2405 conductors or storage. The authority may approve the deployment of
2406 such technologies, conductors or storage, with or without performance
2407 incentive mechanisms, if the authority deems such technologies,
2408 conductors or storage are cost effective.

2409 Sec. 29. Subsection (c) of section 16-18a of the general statutes is
2410 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
2411 *1, 2025*):

2412 (c) The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, [in
2413 consultation with] the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority and the
2414 Office of Consumer Counsel [,] may, respectively, retain consultants to
2415 assist [its] the staff of the department, authority or office by providing
2416 expertise in areas in which staff expertise does not currently exist or to
2417 supplement staff expertise for any proceeding before or in any
2418 negotiation with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the
2419 United States Department of Energy, the United States Nuclear
2420 Regulatory Commission, the United States Securities and Exchange
2421 Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, the Federal
2422 Communications Commission or the United States Department of
2423 Justice. [The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, in consultation with
2424 the Office of Consumer Counsel, may retain consultants to assist its staff
2425 by providing expertise in areas in which staff expertise does not
2426 currently exist or to supplement staff expertise for any proceeding
2427 before or in any negotiation with the Federal Communications
2428 Commission.] All reasonable and proper expenses of any such
2429 consultants shall be borne by the public service companies, certified
2430 telecommunications providers, holders of a certificate of video franchise
2431 authority, electric suppliers or gas registrants affected by the decisions

2432 of such proceeding and shall be paid at such times and in such manner
2433 as the authority directs, provided such expenses (1) shall be apportioned
2434 in proportion to the revenues of each affected entity as reported to the
2435 authority pursuant to section 16-49 for the most recent fiscal year, and
2436 (2) shall not exceed two and one-half million dollars per calendar year,
2437 including any appeals thereof, unless the authority finds good cause for
2438 exceeding the limit. The authority shall recognize all such expenses as
2439 proper business expenses of the affected entities for ratemaking
2440 purposes pursuant to section 16-19e, if applicable.

2441 Sec. 30. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this
2442 section, "electric distribution company" and "regional independent
2443 system operator" have the same meanings as provided in section 16-1 of
2444 the general statutes, as amended by this act.

2445 (b) On and after the effective date of this section, no electric
2446 distribution company shall own or control transmission facilities, as
2447 defined in subdivisions (1) or (4) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i of the
2448 general statutes and located in the state unless such company
2449 participates in the regional independent system operator.

2450 Sec. 31. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section:

2451 (1) "Meeting" means any committee, user group, task force or other
2452 part of the regional transmission organization in which votes are taken;

2453 (2) "Recorded vote" means a vote that is tabulated, either individually
2454 or as part of a sector, for any purpose at a meeting, regardless of (A)
2455 whether the vote represents a final position of any person casting the
2456 vote, or (B) the decision-making authority of those voting; and

2457 (3) "Electric distribution company" and "regional independent system
2458 operator" have the same meanings as provided in section 16-1 of the
2459 general statutes, as amended by this act.

2460 (b) (1) On or before February first annually, each electric distribution
2461 company shall submit to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority a

2462 report on each recorded vote cast by the electric distribution company
2463 or, subject to subdivision (2) of this subsection, a corporate affiliate of
2464 the electric distribution company located in the state at a meeting of the
2465 regional independent system operator during the preceding calendar
2466 year.

2467 (2) The report shall include (A) all recorded votes cast by the electric
2468 distribution company, regardless of whether the vote is otherwise
2469 disclosed, (B) all recorded votes cast by a corporate affiliate of the
2470 electric distribution company if such company itself did not vote on the
2471 matter, and (C) a brief description explaining how each vote cast by the
2472 electric distribution company or its corporate affiliate is in the interest
2473 of the public, as determined by the electric distribution company.

2474 Sec. 32. Subsection (e) of section 16a-3m of the general statutes is
2475 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
2476 *1, 2025*):

2477 (e) (1) Any solicitation issued pursuant to subsection (d) of this
2478 section for zero-carbon electricity generating resources, including, but
2479 not limited to, eligible nuclear power generating facilities, hydropower,
2480 Class I renewable energy sources, as defined in section 16-1, as amended
2481 by this act, and energy storage systems, shall be for resources delivered
2482 into the control area of the regional independent system operator, as
2483 defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, and any agreement
2484 entered into pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be in the
2485 best interest of ratepayers. If the commissioner finds proposals received
2486 pursuant to such solicitations to be in the best interest of ratepayers, the
2487 commissioner may select any such proposal or proposals, provided (A)
2488 the total annual energy output of any proposals selected, in the
2489 aggregate, shall be not more than twelve million megawatt hours of
2490 electricity, (B) any agreement entered into pursuant to this subdivision
2491 with an eligible nuclear power generating facility or hydropower shall
2492 be for a period of not less than three years and not more than ten years,
2493 or the contract term selected by at least one other state entering into an
2494 agreement pursuant to this subsection if such term is in the best interest

2495 of the ratepayers, and (C) any agreement entered into pursuant to this
2496 subdivision with Class I renewable energy sources, as defined in section
2497 16-1, as amended by this act, and energy storage systems shall be for a
2498 period of not more than twenty years.

2499 (2) If the commissioner has made the determination and finding
2500 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, the commissioner shall,
2501 on behalf of all customers of electric distribution companies, direct the
2502 electric distribution companies to enter into agreements for energy,
2503 capacity and any environmental attributes, or any combination thereof,
2504 from proposals submitted pursuant to this subdivision.

2505 (3) (A) Any agreement entered into pursuant to subdivision (2) of this
2506 subsection shall be subject to review and approval by the Public Utilities
2507 Regulatory Authority. The electric distribution company shall file an
2508 application for the approval of any such agreement with the authority.
2509 The authority's review shall commence upon the filing of the signed
2510 power purchase agreement with the authority. The authority shall
2511 approve agreements that it determines [(A)] (i) provide for the delivery
2512 of adequate and reliable products and services, for which there is a clear
2513 public need, at a just and reasonable price, [(B)] (ii) are prudent and cost
2514 effective, and [(C)] (iii) that the respondent to the solicitation has the
2515 technical, financial and managerial capabilities to perform pursuant to
2516 such agreement. For any eligible nuclear power generating facility
2517 selected in any solicitation described in subsection (g) of this section, the
2518 authority shall require any such agreement to be conditioned upon the
2519 approval of such a power purchase agreement or other agreement for
2520 energy, capacity and any environmental attributes, or any combination
2521 thereof, with such eligible nuclear power generating facility, in at least
2522 two other states, by the applicable officials of such states or by electric
2523 utilities or other entities designated by the applicable officials of such
2524 states. The authority shall issue a decision not later than one hundred
2525 eighty days after such filing. If the authority does not issue a decision
2526 within one hundred eighty days after such filing, the agreement shall be
2527 deemed approved.

2528 (B) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or the
2529 procurement plan adopted pursuant to section 16-244m, as amended by
2530 this act, an electric distribution company may, in consultation with the
2531 procurement manager of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority and
2532 the Office of Consumer Counsel, elect to use, for a duration of time
2533 established in consultation with the procurement manager, any portion
2534 of the energy, capacity and other products, or any combination thereof
2535 that such company purchases from an eligible nuclear power generating
2536 facility pursuant to an agreement entered into pursuant to this
2537 subsection for the provision of standard service by such company if such
2538 company, in consultation with the procurement manager and the Office
2539 of Consumer Counsel, concludes such usage is in the best interest of
2540 standard service customers. An electric distribution company that elects
2541 to use such energy, capacity or products in the provision of standard
2542 service shall seek approval from the Public Utilities Regulatory
2543 Authority to incorporate any such agreement into standard service. The
2544 authority may establish reporting standards related to any
2545 determination of whether the use of such agreements is in the best
2546 interest of standard service customers.

2547 (C) An electric distribution company that elects to use such energy,
2548 capacity or products in the provision of standard service shall, in
2549 consultation with the authority and the Office of Consumer Counsel,
2550 specify the (i) quantity of energy, capacity and any other products such
2551 company shall use to serve standard service customers, (ii) duration of
2552 such usage, and (iii) price for such energy, capacity and any other
2553 products that will be recovered through generation service charges
2554 pursuant to section 16-244c.

2555 (D) If any energy, capacity or other products purchased by such
2556 company under any such agreement are used to serve standard service
2557 customers, the cost of such energy, capacity or other products shall be
2558 recovered through generation service charges pursuant to section 16-
2559 244c. Any certificates issued by the New England Power Pool
2560 Generation Information System for any Class I renewable energy source

2561 procured by an electric distribution company pursuant to this section
2562 that are not used to serve standard service customers shall be disposed
2563 of pursuant to the procedures established pursuant to subsection (g) of
2564 section 16-245a, as amended by this act.

2565 (E) (i) The [net] remaining costs of any such agreement, including
2566 costs incurred by the electric distribution company under the agreement
2567 and reasonable costs incurred by the electric distribution company in
2568 connection with the agreement, net of all revenues from any sale of
2569 energy, capacity or other products purchased under such agreement,
2570 including, but not limited to, any revenues recovered pursuant to
2571 subparagraph (D) of this subdivision, shall be recovered on a timely
2572 basis through a nonbypassable fully reconciling component of electric
2573 rates for all customers of the electric distribution company, [. Any] and
2574 (ii) any net revenues from the sale of products purchased in accordance
2575 with long-term contracts entered into pursuant to this subsection, or
2576 pursuant to any other provision of the general statutes, that are not
2577 associated with the provision of standard service, shall be credited to
2578 customers through the same nonbypassable fully reconciling rate
2579 component for all customers of the contracting electric distribution
2580 company.

2581 (F) No provision of this subdivision shall be construed to amend or
2582 alter the terms and conditions of any such agreement approved by the
2583 authority.

2584 Sec. 33. Section 16-244m of the general statutes is repealed and the
2585 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2586 (a) (1) On or before January 1, 2012, and annually thereafter, the
2587 procurement manager of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, in
2588 consultation with each electric distribution company, the Consumer
2589 Counsel, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection,
2590 and others at the procurement manager's discretion, including, but not
2591 limited to, [the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection,]
2592 a municipal energy cooperative established pursuant to chapter 101a,

2593 other than entities, individuals and companies or their affiliates
2594 potentially involved in bidding on standard service, shall develop a plan
2595 for the procurement of electric generation services and related
2596 wholesale electricity market products [that will enable each electric
2597 distribution company to manage a portfolio of contracts to reduce the
2598 average cost of standard service while maintaining standard service cost
2599 volatility within reasonable levels. Each Procurement Plan] with the
2600 goal of reducing the average cost of standard service for standard
2601 service customers while minimizing the cost volatility in the
2602 procurement of such services or products. The procurement plan (A)
2603 shall provide for the option of competitive solicitation for load-
2604 following electric service, [and may] (B) shall include a provision [for
2605 the use of] requiring each electric distribution company, individually or
2606 jointly, to develop and maintain the ability to engage in dynamic market
2607 purchases for not less than twenty per cent of the standard service load
2608 in a flexible manner designed to allow such company to purchase
2609 energy products during periods of lower energy cost, subject to a risk
2610 mitigation provision pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this
2611 section, based on the active monitoring of day-ahead and real-time
2612 energy markets, (C) may include any other contracts, including, but not
2613 limited to, contracts for generation or other electricity market products
2614 and financial contracts, [and] (D) may provide for the use of varying
2615 lengths of contracts, and (E) may include the use of energy, capacity or
2616 other electric products approved in section 16a-3m, as amended by this
2617 act. If such plan includes the purchase of full requirements contracts, it
2618 shall include an explanation of why such purchases are in the best
2619 interests of standard service customers. For the purposes of this section,
2620 "dynamic market purchases" means the purchase of energy, capacity or
2621 other market products necessary to serve standard service electric load
2622 using market purchases in the regional independent system operator
2623 markets, financial contracts or other dynamic procurement techniques.

2624 (2) [All reasonable costs associated with the development of the
2625 Procurement Plan by the authority shall be recoverable through the
2626 assessment in section 16-49. All electric distribution companies'

2627 reasonable costs associated with the development of the Procurement
2628 Plan shall be recoverable through a reconciling bypassable component
2629 of the electric rates as determined by the authority.] On or before
2630 February 15, 2026, in consultation with the electric distribution
2631 companies, the procurement manager shall submit to the authority a
2632 proposed amendment of such procurement plan for approval or
2633 modification. Such proposed amendment shall (A) include, but not be
2634 limited to, modifications regarding the potential use of (i) multiple
2635 competitive solicitations each year for the procurement of energy at
2636 intervals identified in the procurement plan, or as determined from time
2637 to time by the procurement manager to serve the best interests of the
2638 ratepayers, provided such determination is in accordance with the
2639 applicable provisions of the procurement plan, (ii) contracts with
2640 durations not exceeding three years for the procurement of energy, and
2641 (iii) fixed-price energy supply contracts in addition to full requirements
2642 contracts, (B) establish guidelines for each electric distribution company
2643 concerning the implementation of the procurement plan, including (i)
2644 the requirement that each such company develop and maintain the
2645 capacity to engage in dynamic market purchases, and (ii) direction to
2646 each electric distribution company regarding the circumstances under
2647 which dynamic market purchases could be exercised, including a
2648 requirement that the ability to pursue the procurement methodologies
2649 as described in subdivision (1) of this subsection incrementally increase
2650 or decrease over time based on any demonstrated benefit to ratepayers,
2651 and (C) include a risk mitigation provision pursuant to subdivision (1)
2652 of subsection (b) of this section. The authority shall initiate an
2653 uncontested proceeding to review and modify or approve the
2654 amendment to the procurement plan submitted pursuant to this
2655 subdivision.

2656 (3) If the procurement manager determines that an interim
2657 amendment to, or a temporary nonconformity with, the procurement
2658 plan may substantially further the goal of effectively procuring standard
2659 service while minimizing standard service cost volatility in relation to a
2660 specific procurement, the procurement manager shall adopt a waiver

2661 from the procurement plan applicable exclusively to such procurement.
2662 Upon the adoption of such waiver, the procurement manager shall
2663 immediately file notice of such interim amendment or nonconformity
2664 and the adoption of such waiver with the authority. Upon receipt of
2665 such notice from the procurement manager, the authority shall provide
2666 notice of the proposed waiver to the Office of Consumer Counsel, the
2667 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection and the electric
2668 distribution companies. Upon receipt of such notice from the authority,
2669 the counsel, commissioner or any such company may submit comments
2670 concerning such waiver to the authority not later than two business days
2671 after the receipt of such notice. Such waiver shall be deemed adopted by
2672 the authority if the authority takes no action on such waiver not later
2673 than three business days after the comment period concerning such
2674 waiver for the counsel, commissioner and companies has expired.

2675 (b) (1) In addition to the requirements of subsection (a) of this section,
2676 the procurement plan shall include a risk mitigation provision that
2677 defines the acceptable parameters for such dynamic market purchases,
2678 including guidelines for the use of financial contracts. Each electric
2679 distribution company shall comply with the provisions of the
2680 procurement plan, including any amendments to such plan or waivers
2681 of provisions of such plan adopted by the authority. Any review
2682 concerning the prudence of an electric distribution company's dynamic
2683 market purchases shall be conducted by the authority in a contested
2684 proceeding and shall be limited to an evaluation of such company's
2685 adherence to the dynamic market purchase requirements of the
2686 procurement plan.

2687 (2) Costs incurred under this section shall be recovered as follows:

2688 (A) All reasonable costs associated with the development and
2689 implementation of the procurement plan by the authority shall be
2690 recoverable through the assessment imposed pursuant to section 16-49.

2691 (B) All reasonable and prudent operating costs incurred by an electric
2692 distribution company in the development and implementation of the

2693 procurement plan shall be recoverable on a timely basis through a
2694 reconciling nonbypassable component of the electric rates as
2695 determined by the authority, including incremental staffing and
2696 financial systems providing the functional capacity and expertise to
2697 support dynamic market purchases.

2698 (C) All costs associated with the purchase of the actual net costs of
2699 procuring and providing standard service pursuant to this section shall
2700 be recovered in electric rates on a timely basis in accordance with section
2701 16-244c.

2702 (c) The procurement plan shall identify the method that shall be used
2703 by an electric distribution company to develop the proxy price for that
2704 portion of standard service procured through dynamic market
2705 purchases. Each electric distribution company shall pay for the costs of
2706 such dynamic market purchases in accordance with the terms of the
2707 applicable contracts. The actual costs of dynamic market purchases shall
2708 be reconciled to the proxy price for such costs, and the actual net cost of
2709 such dynamic market purchases shall be recovered in electric rates on a
2710 timely basis in accordance with section 16-244c.

2711 [(b)] (d) The procurement manager shall, not less than [quarterly]
2712 annually, prepare a written report on the implementation of the
2713 [Procurement Plan] procurement plan. If the procurement manager
2714 finds that an [interim] amendment to the [annual plan might] plan may
2715 substantially further the goals [of reducing the cost or cost volatility of]
2716 to effectively procure standard service, generally, while minimizing the
2717 cost volatility in such procurement, the procurement manager may
2718 petition the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority for such an [interim]
2719 amendment. The [Public Utilities Regulatory Authority] authority shall
2720 provide notice of the proposed amendment to the Office of Consumer
2721 Counsel, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection
2722 and the electric distribution companies. The Office of Consumer
2723 Counsel, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection
2724 and the electric distribution companies shall have [two] fourteen
2725 business days from the date of such notice to request an uncontested

2726 proceeding and a technical meeting of the [Public Utilities Regulatory
2727 Authority] authority regarding the proposed amendment, [which] and
2728 the authority shall hold such proceeding and meeting, [shall occur] if
2729 requested. [The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority] After such
2730 proceeding and meeting, if requested, the authority may approve,
2731 modify or deny the proposed amendment. [, with such approval,
2732 modification or denial following the technical meeting if one is
2733 requested. The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority's] The authority's
2734 ruling on the proposed amendment shall occur [within three business]
2735 not later than ninety days after the technical meeting, if [one] such
2736 meeting is requested, or [within three business] not later than one
2737 hundred twenty days [of] after the expiration of the time for requesting
2738 a technical meeting if no technical meeting is requested. The [Public
2739 Utilities Regulatory Authority] authority may maintain the
2740 confidentiality of the technical meeting to the full extent allowed by law.

2741 [(c)] (e) The costs of procurement for standard service shall be borne
2742 solely by the standard service customers.

2743 [(d)] (f) (1) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority [shall conduct]
2744 may initiate an uncontested proceeding to amend the procurement plan
2745 from time to time. [approve, with any amendments it determines
2746 necessary, the Procurement Plan submitted pursuant to subsection (a)
2747 of this section.]

2748 (2) [The] Not later than April 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, the
2749 Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall submit a report, [annually]
2750 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing
2751 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
2752 relating to energy regarding the [Procurement Plan] procurement plan
2753 and its implementation. Any such report may be submitted
2754 [electronically] in conjunction with the report of the authority required
2755 pursuant to section 16-245x.

2756 Sec. 34. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section:

2757 (1) "Gas company", "electric distribution company" and "participating
2758 municipal electric utility" have the same meanings as provided in
2759 section 16-1 of the general statutes, as amended by this act;

2760 (2) "Regional council of governments" means a regional council of
2761 governments organized under the provisions of sections 4-124i to 4-
2762 124p, inclusive, of the general statutes;

2763 (3) "Thermal energy" means heating, or heating and cooling, derived
2764 from (A) sources that do not emit greenhouse gases, or (B) geothermal
2765 energy; and

2766 (4) "Thermal energy network" means all real estate, fixtures and
2767 personal property operated, owned and used or to be used for, or in
2768 connection with or to facilitate, a utility-scale distribution infrastructure
2769 project that supplies thermal energy in the form of piped
2770 noncombustible fluids used for transferring heat into and out of
2771 buildings for any type of heating and cooling process, including, but not
2772 limited to, comfort heating and cooling, domestic hot water and
2773 refrigeration.

2774 (b) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall,
2775 within available appropriations, establish a thermal energy network
2776 grant and loan program to support the development of thermal energy
2777 network projects on the customer's side of the meter. The commissioner
2778 shall develop and issue a request for proposals from eligible recipients
2779 that shall include, but need not be limited to, any local or regional
2780 governmental entity, municipal corporation, regional council of
2781 governments, public authority, state and federally recognized tribe,
2782 electric distribution company, gas company, participating municipal
2783 electric utility, energy improvement district and nonprofit, academic
2784 and private entity seeking to develop a thermal energy network. Any
2785 such eligible recipient may collaborate with any other such eligible
2786 recipient in submitting such proposal.

2787 (c) The commissioner may award grants or loans under the thermal

2788 energy network grant and loan program to any number of eligible
2789 recipients. Such grants and loans may provide: (1) Assistance with
2790 community planning that includes, but is not limited to, thermal energy
2791 network project feasibility, including benefit-cost analyses, (2)
2792 assistance to recipients for the cost of design, engineering services and
2793 infrastructure for any such thermal energy network project, or (3)
2794 nonfederal cost share for grant or loan applications for projects or
2795 programs that include thermal energy networks. The commissioner
2796 may establish any financing mechanism to provide or leverage
2797 additional funding to support the development of thermal energy
2798 network projects. To be eligible for the award of a grant or loan under
2799 this section, an eligible recipient shall demonstrate, to the satisfaction of
2800 the commissioner, that such recipient has adopted wage standards
2801 conforming with the requirements of section 31-53 of the general
2802 statutes.

2803 (d) Not later than January first, annually, for a period of three years
2804 after receiving a grant or loan under the thermal energy network grant
2805 and loan program, the recipient of such grant or loan shall submit a
2806 report to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, the Office of
2807 Consumer Counsel and the Commissioner of Energy and
2808 Environmental Protection and, in accordance with the provisions of
2809 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of
2810 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy
2811 and technology. Such report shall include information concerning the
2812 status of such recipient's thermal energy network project.

2813 Sec. 35. Section 22a-136 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2814 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2815 (a) As used in this section: (1) "Advanced nuclear reactor" has the
2816 same meaning as provided in 42 USC 16271, as amended from time to
2817 time, and (2) "high level nuclear waste" means those aqueous wastes
2818 resulting from the operation of the first cycle of the solvent extraction
2819 system or equivalent and the concentrated wastes of the subsequent
2820 extraction cycles or equivalent in a facility for reprocessing irradiated

2821 reactor fuel and includes spent fuel assemblies prior to fuel
2822 reprocessing.

2823 (b) No construction shall commence on a [fifth] new nuclear power
2824 facility [until the] in the state unless:

2825 (1) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection finds
2826 that the United States Government, through its authorized agency, has
2827 identified and approved a demonstrable technology or means for the
2828 disposal of high level nuclear waste; [The provisions of this section
2829 shall not apply to construction at any nuclear power generating facility
2830 operating in the state as of October 1, 2022. As used in this section, "high
2831 level nuclear waste" means those aqueous wastes resulting from the
2832 operation of the first cycle of the solvent extraction system or equivalent
2833 and the concentrated wastes of the subsequent extraction cycles or
2834 equivalent in a facility for reprocessing irradiated reactor fuel and shall
2835 include spent fuel assemblies prior to fuel reprocessing.]

2836 (2) The nuclear power facility is proposed to be sited at a nuclear
2837 power generating facility operating in the state as of October 1, 2022; or

2838 (3) The construction is for an advanced nuclear reactor facility and
2839 (A) such facility is sited in a municipality that has consented to such
2840 facility's development through the affirmative vote of such
2841 municipality's legislative body or a referendum held in such
2842 municipality, and (B) any additional municipality within the emergency
2843 planning zone, as determined by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
2844 if the proposed facility consents to such facility's development through
2845 the affirmative vote of such municipality's legislative body or a
2846 referendum held in such municipality.

2847 (c) The entity proposing such new nuclear power facility, including
2848 any advanced nuclear reactor, shall obtain all permits, licenses,
2849 permissions or approvals governing the construction, operation and
2850 funding of the decommissioning of such nuclear power facility as
2851 required by: (1) Any applicable federal statutes, including, but not

2852 limited to, the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, the Energy Reorganization
2853 Act of 1974, the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy Amendments Act
2854 of 1985 and the Energy Policy Act of 1992, as amended from time to time;
2855 (2) any regulations promulgated or enforced by the United States
2856 Nuclear Regulatory Commission, including, but not limited to, those
2857 codified in Title X, Parts 20, 30, 40, 50, 52, 53, 70 and 72 of the Code of
2858 Federal Regulations, as amended from time to time; and (3) any other
2859 federal or state statute, rule or regulation governing the permitting,
2860 licensing, construction, operation or decommissioning of such facility.

2861 Sec. 36. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section, (1)
2862 "eligible recipient" means (A) a regional governmental entity,
2863 municipality, regional council of governments, public authority, state or
2864 federally recognized tribe or municipal electric utility or cooperative
2865 with a demonstrated interest in hosting advanced nuclear reactors, as
2866 determined by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental
2867 Protection, (B) a private entity partnering or interested in partnering
2868 with said entities for the development of advanced nuclear reactors, or
2869 (C) an institution of higher education in the state; and (2) "advanced
2870 nuclear reactor" has the same meaning as provided in 42 USC 16271, as
2871 amended from time to time.

2872 (b) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall
2873 establish a competitive advanced nuclear reactor site readiness funding
2874 program. The commissioner may provide funding through the program
2875 in the form of grants or loans to eligible recipients in support of:

2876 (1) Environmental and technical studies required for early site
2877 permitting for advanced nuclear reactors;

2878 (2) Local and regional infrastructure assessments to support the
2879 development of advanced nuclear reactors;

2880 (3) Community engagement and planning initiatives related to
2881 hosting advanced nuclear reactors; and

2882 (4) Other necessary expenses identified by the commissioner to

2883 advance site readiness for advanced nuclear reactors.

2884 (c) The commissioner may use bond funds authorized in support of
2885 the program or federal funds allocated to the state in support of the
2886 program established under this section. In the case of federal funds
2887 allocated for such purposes, the commissioner may revise its advanced
2888 nuclear reactor site readiness grant program criteria to be consistent
2889 with the requirements of the federal funding program criteria. The
2890 commissioner may use said funds to hire a technical consultant to
2891 support the implementation of this section.

2892 (d) For the purposes described in subsection (e) of this section, the
2893 State Bond Commission shall have the power from time to time to
2894 authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in one or more series and in
2895 principal amounts not exceeding in the aggregate five million dollars.

2896 (e) The proceeds of the sale of such bonds shall be used by the
2897 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for the purpose of
2898 funding grants or loans through the advanced nuclear reactor site
2899 readiness funding program established pursuant to this section.

2900 Sec. 37. Subsection (a) of section 16a-102 of the general statutes is
2901 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
2902 *1, 2025*):

2903 (a) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall
2904 coordinate all atomic development activities in the state. Said
2905 commissioner or [his] the commissioner's designee shall (1) advise the
2906 Governor with respect to atomic industrial development within the
2907 state; (2) act as coordinator of the development and regulatory activities
2908 of the state relating to the industrial and commercial uses of atomic
2909 energy; (3) act as the Governor's designee in matters relating to atomic
2910 energy, including participation in the activities of any committee
2911 formed by the New England states to represent their interests in such
2912 matters and also cooperation with other states and with the government
2913 of the United States; (4) coordinate the studies, recommendations and

2914 proposals of the several departments and agencies of the state required
2915 by section 16a-103 with each other and also with the programs and
2916 activities of the development commission; and (5) act as a point of
2917 contact for public and private stakeholders to assist in compliance with
2918 federal, state and local requirements relevant to atomic development,
2919 including, but not limited to, siting considerations and permitting
2920 requirements. The commissioner shall consult with and review
2921 regulations and procedures of the agencies of the state with respect to
2922 the regulation of sources of radiation to assure consistency and to
2923 prevent unnecessary duplication, inconsistencies or gaps in regulatory
2924 requirements.

2925 Sec. 38. Subdivision (20) of subsection (a) of section 16-1 of the general
2926 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
2927 (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2928 (20) "Class I renewable energy source" means (A) electricity derived
2929 from (i) solar power, (ii) wind power, (iii) a fuel cell, (iv) geothermal, (v)
2930 [landfill methane gas,] anaerobic digestion or other biogas derived from
2931 biological sources, (vi) thermal electric direct energy conversion from a
2932 certified Class I renewable energy source, (vii) ocean thermal power,
2933 (viii) wave or tidal power, (ix) low emission advanced renewable energy
2934 conversion technologies, including, but not limited to, zero emission
2935 low grade heat power generation systems based on organic oil free
2936 rankine, kalina or other similar nonsteam cycles that use waste heat
2937 from an industrial or commercial process that does not generate
2938 electricity, (x) (I) a run-of-the-river hydropower facility that began
2939 operation after July 1, 2003, has a generating capacity of not more than
2940 sixty megawatts, is not based on a new dam or a dam identified by the
2941 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection as a candidate
2942 for removal, and meets applicable state and federal requirements,
2943 including state dam safety requirements and applicable site-specific
2944 standards for water quality and fish passage, or (II) a run-of-the-river
2945 hydropower facility that received a new license after January 1, 2018,
2946 under the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission rules pursuant to 18

2947 CFR 16, as amended from time to time, is not based on a new dam or a
2948 dam identified by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental
2949 Protection as a candidate for removal, and meets applicable state and
2950 federal requirements, including state dam safety requirements and
2951 applicable site-specific standards for water quality and fish passage, (xi)
2952 a biomass facility, provided such facility has executed an agreement to
2953 provide energy to an electric distribution company prior to the effective
2954 date of this section, that (I) uses sustainable biomass fuel and has an
2955 average emission rate of equal to or less than .075 pounds of nitrogen
2956 oxides per million BTU of heat input for the previous calendar quarter,
2957 [except that energy derived from a biomass facility with] or (II) has a
2958 capacity of less than five hundred kilowatts that began construction
2959 before July 1, 2003, may be considered a Class I renewable energy source
2960 for the duration of such agreement, or (xii) a nuclear power generating
2961 facility constructed on or after October 1, 2023, or (B) any electrical
2962 generation, including distributed generation, generated from a Class I
2963 renewable energy source, provided, on and after January 1, 2014, any
2964 megawatt hours of electricity from a renewable energy source described
2965 under this subparagraph that are claimed or counted by a load-serving
2966 entity, province or state toward compliance with renewable portfolio
2967 standards or renewable energy policy goals in another province or state,
2968 other than the state of Connecticut, shall not be eligible for compliance
2969 with the renewable portfolio standards established pursuant to section
2970 16-245a, as amended by this act;

2971 Sec. 39. Section 16-245a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2972 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

2973 (a) Subject to any modifications required by the Public Utilities
2974 Regulatory Authority for retiring renewable energy certificates on
2975 behalf of all electric ratepayers pursuant to subsection (h) of this section
2976 and sections 16a-3f, 16a-3g, as amended by this act, 16a-3h, as amended
2977 by this act, 16a-3i, as amended by this act, 16a-3j, 16a-3m, as amended
2978 by this act, [and] 16a-3n, as amended by this act, and 16a-3p, as amended
2979 by this act, an electric supplier and an electric distribution company

2980 providing standard service or supplier of last resort service, pursuant to
2981 section 16-244c, shall demonstrate:

2982 (1) On and after January 1, 2006, that not less than two per cent of the
2983 total output or services of any such supplier or distribution company
2984 shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an
2985 additional three per cent of the total output or services shall be from
2986 Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

2987 (2) On and after January 1, 2007, not less than three and one-half per
2988 cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or distribution
2989 company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and
2990 an additional three per cent of the total output or services shall be from
2991 Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

2992 (3) On and after January 1, 2008, not less than five per cent of the total
2993 output or services of any such supplier or distribution company shall be
2994 generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an additional
2995 three per cent of the total output or services shall be from Class I or Class
2996 II renewable energy sources;

2997 (4) On and after January 1, 2009, not less than six per cent of the total
2998 output or services of any such supplier or distribution company shall be
2999 generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an additional
3000 three per cent of the total output or services shall be from Class I or Class
3001 II renewable energy sources;

3002 (5) On and after January 1, 2010, not less than seven per cent of the
3003 total output or services of any such supplier or distribution company
3004 shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an
3005 additional three per cent of the total output or services shall be from
3006 Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3007 (6) On and after January 1, 2011, not less than eight per cent of the
3008 total output or services of any such supplier or distribution company
3009 shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an
3010 additional three per cent of the total output or services shall be from

3011 Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3012 (7) On and after January 1, 2012, not less than nine per cent of the total
3013 output or services of any such supplier or distribution company shall be
3014 generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an additional
3015 three per cent of the total output or services shall be from Class I or Class
3016 II renewable energy sources;

3017 (8) On and after January 1, 2013, not less than ten per cent of the total
3018 output or services of any such supplier or distribution company shall be
3019 generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an additional
3020 three per cent of the total output or services shall be from Class I or Class
3021 II renewable energy sources;

3022 (9) On and after January 1, 2014, not less than eleven per cent of the
3023 total output or services of any such supplier or distribution company
3024 shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an
3025 additional three per cent of the total output or services shall be from
3026 Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3027 (10) On and after January 1, 2015, not less than twelve and one-half
3028 per cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or
3029 distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy
3030 sources and an additional three per cent of the total output or services
3031 shall be from Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3032 (11) On and after January 1, 2016, not less than fourteen per cent of
3033 the total output or services of any such supplier or distribution company
3034 shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an
3035 additional three per cent of the total output or services shall be from
3036 Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3037 (12) On and after January 1, 2017, not less than fifteen and one-half
3038 per cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or
3039 distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy
3040 sources and an additional three per cent of the total output or services
3041 shall be from Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3042 (13) On and after January 1, 2018, not less than seventeen per cent of
3043 the total output or services of any such supplier or distribution company
3044 shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an
3045 additional four per cent of the total output or services shall be from Class
3046 I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3047 (14) On and after January 1, 2019, not less than nineteen and one-half
3048 per cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or
3049 distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy
3050 sources and an additional four per cent of the total output or services
3051 shall be from Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3052 (15) On and after January 1, 2020, not less than twenty-one per cent
3053 of the total output or services of any such supplier or distribution
3054 company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and
3055 an additional four per cent of the total output or services shall be from
3056 Class I or Class II renewable energy sources, except that for any electric
3057 supplier that has entered into or renewed a retail electric supply contract
3058 on or before May 24, 2018, on and after January 1, 2020, not less than
3059 twenty per cent of the total output or services of any such electric
3060 supplier shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources;

3061 (16) On and after January 1, 2021, not less than twenty-two and one-
3062 half per cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or
3063 distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy
3064 sources and an additional four per cent of the total output or services
3065 shall be from Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3066 (17) On and after January 1, 2022, not less than twenty-four per cent
3067 of the total output or services of any such supplier or distribution
3068 company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and
3069 an additional four per cent of the total output or services shall be from
3070 Class I or Class II renewable energy sources;

3071 (18) On and after January 1, 2023, not less than twenty-six per cent of
3072 the total output or services of any such supplier or distribution company

3073 shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and
3074 additional four per cent of the total output or services shall be from Class
3075 II renewable energy sources;

3076 (19) On and after January 1, 2024, not less than twenty-eight per cent
3077 of the total output or services of any such supplier or distribution
3078 company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and
3079 an additional four per cent of the total output or services shall be from
3080 Class II renewable energy sources;

3081 (20) On and after January 1, 2025, not less than thirty per cent of the
3082 total output or services of any such supplier or distribution company
3083 shall be generated from Class I renewable energy sources and an
3084 additional four per cent of the total output or services shall be from Class
3085 II renewable energy sources;

3086 (21) On and after January 1, 2026, not less than [thirty-two] twenty-
3087 five per cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or
3088 distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy
3089 sources and an additional four per cent of the total output or services
3090 shall be from Class II renewable energy sources;

3091 (22) On and after January 1, 2027, not less than [thirty-four] twenty-
3092 six per cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or
3093 distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy
3094 sources and an additional four per cent of the total output or services
3095 shall be from Class II renewable energy sources;

3096 (23) On and after January 1, 2028, not less than [thirty-six] twenty-
3097 seven per cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or
3098 distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy
3099 sources and an additional four per cent of the total output or services
3100 shall be from Class II renewable energy sources;

3101 (24) On and after January 1, 2029, not less than [thirty-eight] twenty-
3102 eight per cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or
3103 distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy

3104 sources and an additional four per cent of the total output or services
3105 shall be from Class II renewable energy sources;

3106 (25) On and after January 1, 2030, not less than [forty] twenty-nine
3107 per cent of the total output or services of any such supplier or
3108 distribution company shall be generated from Class I renewable energy
3109 sources and an additional four per cent of the total output or services
3110 shall be from Class II renewable energy sources.

3111 (b) (1) An electric supplier or electric distribution company may
3112 satisfy the requirements of this section (A) by purchasing certificates
3113 issued by the New England Power Pool Generation Information System,
3114 provided the certificates are for (i) energy produced by a generating unit
3115 using Class I or Class II renewable energy sources and the generating
3116 unit is located in the jurisdiction of the regional independent system
3117 operator, or (ii) energy imported into the control area of the regional
3118 independent system operator pursuant to New England Power Pool
3119 Generation Information System Rule 2.7(c), as in effect on January 1,
3120 2006; (B) for those renewable energy certificates under contract to serve
3121 end use customers in the state on or before October 1, 2006, by
3122 participating in a renewable energy trading program within said
3123 jurisdictions as approved by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority;
3124 or (C) by purchasing eligible renewable electricity and associated
3125 attributes from residential customers who are net producers. (2) Not
3126 more than two and one-half per cent of the total output or services of an
3127 electric supplier or electric distribution company shall be generated
3128 from Class I renewable energy sources eligible as described in
3129 subparagraph (A)(x)(II) of subdivision (20) of subsection (a) of section
3130 16-1, as amended by this act.

3131 (c) Any supplier who provides electric generation services solely
3132 from a Class II renewable energy source shall not be required to comply
3133 with the provisions of this section.

3134 (d) An electric supplier or an electric distribution company shall base
3135 its demonstration of generation sources, as required under subsection

3136 (a) of this section on historical data, which may consist of data filed with
3137 the regional independent system operator.

3138 (e) The authority shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the
3139 provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section.

3140 (f) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section and section 16-244c,
3141 for periods beginning on and after January 1, 2008, each electric
3142 distribution company may procure renewable energy certificates from
3143 Class I, Class II and Class III renewable energy sources through long-
3144 term contracting mechanisms. The electric distribution companies may
3145 enter into long-term contracts for not more than fifteen years to procure
3146 such renewable energy certificates. The electric distribution companies
3147 shall use any renewable energy certificates obtained pursuant to this
3148 section to meet their standard service and supplier of last resort
3149 renewable portfolio standard requirements.

3150 [(g) On or before January 1, 2014, the Commissioner of Energy and
3151 Environmental Protection shall, in developing or modifying an
3152 Integrated Resources Plan in accordance with sections 16a-3a and 16a-
3153 3e, establish a schedule to commence on January 1, 2015, for assigning a
3154 gradually reduced renewable energy credit value to all biomass or
3155 landfill methane gas facilities that qualify as a Class I renewable energy
3156 source pursuant to section 16-1, provided this subsection shall not apply
3157 to anaerobic digestion or other biogas facilities, and further provided
3158 any reduced renewable energy credit value established pursuant to this
3159 section shall not apply to any biomass or landfill methane gas facility
3160 that has entered into a power purchase agreement (1) with an electric
3161 supplier or electric distribution company in the state of Connecticut on
3162 or before June 5, 2013, or (2) executed in accordance with section 16a-3f
3163 or 16a-3h. The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection
3164 may review the schedule established pursuant to this subsection in
3165 preparation of each subsequent Integrated Resources Plan developed
3166 pursuant to section 16a-3a and make any necessary changes thereto to
3167 ensure that the rate of reductions in renewable energy credit value for
3168 biomass or landfill methane gas facilities is appropriate given the

3169 availability of other Class I renewable energy sources.]

3170 [(h)] (g) The authority, in consultation with the Commissioner of
3171 Energy and Environmental Protection and the Office of Consumer
3172 Counsel, shall initiate a proceeding to establish procedures for the
3173 disposition of renewable energy certificates purchased pursuant to
3174 [section] sections 16-244z, as amended by this act, 16a-3f, 16a-3g, as
3175 amended by this act, 16a-3h, as amended by this act, 16a-3i, as amended
3176 by this act, 16a-3j, 16a-3m, as amended by this act, 16a-3n, as amended
3177 by this act, and 16a-3p, as amended by this act, which may include
3178 procedures for selling renewable energy certificates [consistent with
3179 section 16-244z or, if renewable energy certificates procured pursuant to
3180 section 16-244z are retired and never used for compliance in any other
3181 jurisdiction, reductions to] or to retire such certificates on behalf of all
3182 ratepayers and reduce the percentage of the total output or services of
3183 an electric supplier or an electric distribution company generated from
3184 Class I renewable energy sources required pursuant to subsection (a) of
3185 this section. Any such reduction shall be based on the energy production
3186 that the authority forecasts will be procured. [pursuant to subsections
3187 (a) and (b) of section 16-244z.] The authority shall determine any such
3188 reduction of an annual renewable portfolio standard not later than one
3189 year prior to the effective date of such annual renewable portfolio
3190 standard. An electric distribution company shall not be responsible for
3191 any administrative or other costs or expenses associated with any
3192 difference between the number of renewable energy certificates planned
3193 to be retired pursuant to the authority's reduction and the actual
3194 number of renewable energy certificates retired.

3195 Sec. 40. Section 16a-3g of the general statutes is repealed and the
3196 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3197 On or after July 1, 2013, the Commissioner of Energy and
3198 Environmental Protection, in consultation with the procurement
3199 manager identified in subsection (l) of section 16-2, as amended by this
3200 act, the Office of Consumer Counsel and the Attorney General, may, in
3201 coordination with other states in the region of the regional independent

3202 system operator, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, or
3203 on the commissioner's own, solicit proposals, in one solicitation or
3204 multiple solicitations, from providers of Class I renewable energy
3205 sources, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, or verifiable
3206 large-scale hydropower, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this
3207 act. If the commissioner finds such proposals to be in the interest of
3208 ratepayers, including, but not limited to, the delivered price of such
3209 sources, and consistent with the requirements to reduce greenhouse gas
3210 emissions in accordance with section 22a-200a, and in accordance with
3211 the policy goals outlined in the Comprehensive Energy Strategy,
3212 adopted pursuant to section 16a-3d, and section 129 of public act 11-80,
3213 including, but not limited to, base load capacity, peak load shaving and
3214 promotion of wind, solar and other renewable and low carbon energy
3215 technologies, the commissioner may select proposals from such
3216 resources to meet up to five per cent of the load distributed by the state's
3217 electric distribution companies. The commissioner may on behalf of all
3218 customers of electric distribution companies, direct the electric
3219 distribution companies to enter into power purchase agreements for
3220 energy, capacity and any environmental attributes, or any combination
3221 thereof, for periods of not more than (1) fifteen years, if any such
3222 agreement is with a provider of verifiable large-scale hydropower, or (2)
3223 twenty years, if any such agreement is with a provider of a Class I
3224 renewable energy source. [Certificates issued by the New England
3225 Power Pool Generation Information System for any Class I renewable
3226 energy sources procured under this section shall be sold in the New
3227 England Power Pool Generation Information System renewable energy
3228 credit market to be used by any electric supplier or electric distribution
3229 company to meet the requirements of section 16-245a.] Any such
3230 agreement shall be subject to review and approval by the Public Utilities
3231 Regulatory Authority, which review shall (A) include a public hearing,
3232 and (B) be completed not later than sixty days after the date on which
3233 such agreement is filed with the authority. The net costs of any such
3234 agreement, including costs incurred by the electric distribution
3235 companies under the agreement and reasonable costs incurred by the
3236 electric distribution companies in connection with the agreement, shall

3237 be recovered through a fully reconciling component of electric rates for
3238 all customers of electric distribution companies. Certificates issued by
3239 the New England Power Pool Generation Information System for any
3240 Class I renewable energy source procured by an electric distribution
3241 company pursuant to this section shall be disposed of pursuant to the
3242 procedures established pursuant to subsection (g) of section 16-245a, as
3243 amended by this act.

3244 Sec. 41. Section 16a-3h of the general statutes is repealed and the
3245 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3246 On or after October 1, 2013, the Commissioner of Energy and
3247 Environmental Protection, in consultation with the procurement
3248 manager identified in subsection (l) of section 16-2, as amended by this
3249 act, the Office of Consumer Counsel and the Attorney General, may
3250 solicit proposals, in one solicitation or multiple solicitations, from
3251 providers of the following resources or any combination of the
3252 following resources: Run-of-the-river hydropower, landfill methane
3253 gas, biomass, fuel cell, offshore wind or anaerobic digestion, provided
3254 such source meets the definition of a Class I renewable energy source
3255 pursuant to section 16-1, as amended by this act, or energy storage
3256 systems. In making any selection of such proposals, the commissioner
3257 shall consider factors, including, but not limited to (1) whether the
3258 proposal is in the interest of ratepayers, including, but not limited to,
3259 the delivered price of such sources, (2) the emissions profile of a relevant
3260 facility, (3) any investments made by a relevant facility to improve the
3261 emissions profile of such facility, (4) the length of time a relevant facility
3262 has received renewable energy credits, (5) any positive impacts on the
3263 state's economic development, (6) whether the proposal is consistent
3264 with requirements to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in accordance
3265 with section 22a-200a, including, but not limited to, the development of
3266 combined heat and power systems, (7) whether the proposal is
3267 consistent with the policy goals outlined in the Comprehensive Energy
3268 Strategy adopted pursuant to section 16a-3d, (8) whether the proposal
3269 promotes electric distribution system reliability and other electric

3270 distribution system benefits, including, but not limited to, microgrids,
3271 (9) whether the proposal promotes the policy goals outlined in the state-
3272 wide solid waste management plan developed pursuant to section 22a-
3273 241a, and (10) the positive reuse of sites with limited development
3274 opportunities, including, but not limited to, brownfields or landfills, as
3275 identified by the commissioner in any solicitation issued pursuant to
3276 this section. The commissioner may select proposals from such
3277 resources to meet up to six per cent of the load distributed by the state's
3278 electric distribution companies, provided the commissioner shall not
3279 select proposals for more than three per cent of the load distributed by
3280 the state's electric distribution companies from offshore wind resources.
3281 The commissioner may direct the electric distribution companies to
3282 enter into power purchase agreements for energy, capacity and
3283 environmental attributes, or any combination thereof, for periods of not
3284 more than twenty years on behalf of all customers of the state's electric
3285 distribution companies. [Certificates issued by the New England Power
3286 Pool Generation Information System for any Class I renewable energy
3287 sources procured under this section may be: (A) Sold in the New
3288 England Power Pool Generation Information System renewable energy
3289 credit market to be used by any electric supplier or electric distribution
3290 company to meet the requirements of section 16-245a, provided the
3291 revenues from such sale are credited to all customers of the contracting
3292 electric distribution company; or (B) retained by the electric distribution
3293 company to meet the requirements of section 16-245a. In considering
3294 whether to sell or retain such certificates, the company shall select the
3295 option that is in the best interest of such company's ratepayers.] Any
3296 such agreement shall be subject to review and approval by the Public
3297 Utilities Regulatory Authority, which review shall be completed not
3298 later than sixty days after the date on which such agreement is filed with
3299 the authority. The net costs of any such agreement, including costs
3300 incurred by the electric distribution companies under the agreement
3301 and reasonable costs incurred by the electric distribution companies in
3302 connection with the agreement, shall be recovered through a fully
3303 reconciling component of electric rates for all customers of electric
3304 distribution companies. All reasonable costs incurred by the

3305 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection associated with
3306 the commissioner's solicitation and review of proposals pursuant to this
3307 section shall be recoverable through the nonbypassable federally
3308 mandated congestion charges, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by
3309 this act. Certificates issued by the New England Power Pool Generation
3310 Information System for any Class I renewable energy source procured
3311 by an electric distribution company pursuant to this section shall be
3312 disposed of pursuant to the procedures established pursuant to
3313 subsection (g) of section 16-245a, as amended by this act.

3314 Sec. 42. Subsection (d) of section 16a-3i of the general statutes is
3315 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3316 *1, 2025*):

3317 (d) In the event there is such a presumption pursuant to subsection
3318 (a) of this section and the commissioner finds a material shortage of
3319 Class I renewable energy sources pursuant to subsection (b) of this
3320 section, and in addition to determining the adequacy pursuant to
3321 subsection (c) of this section, the commissioner shall, in consultation
3322 with the procurement manager identified in subsection (l) of section 16-
3323 2, as amended by this act, the Office of Consumer Counsel and the
3324 Attorney General, solicit proposals from providers of Class I renewable
3325 energy sources, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act,
3326 operational as of the date that such solicitation is issued. If the
3327 commissioner, in consultation with the procurement manager identified
3328 in subsection (l) of section 16-2, as amended by this act, finds such
3329 proposals to be in the interest of ratepayers including, but not limited
3330 to, the delivered price of such sources, and consistent with the
3331 requirements to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with
3332 section 22a-200a, and in accordance with the policy goals outlined in the
3333 Comprehensive Energy Strategy, adopted pursuant to section 16a-3d,
3334 the commissioner, in consultation with the procurement manager
3335 identified in subsection (l) of section 16-2, as amended by this act, may
3336 select proposals from such sources to meet up to the amount necessary
3337 to ensure an adequate incremental supply of Class I renewable energy

3338 sources to rectify any projected shortage of Class I renewable energy
3339 supply identified pursuant to subsection (c) of this section. The
3340 commissioner shall direct the electric distribution companies to enter
3341 into power purchase agreements for energy, capacity and
3342 environmental attributes, or any combination thereof, from such
3343 selected proposals for periods of not more than ten years. [Certificates
3344 issued by the New England Power Pool Generation Information System
3345 for any Class I renewable energy sources procured under this section
3346 shall be sold in the New England Power Pool Generation Information
3347 System renewable energy credit market to be used by any electric
3348 supplier or electric distribution company to meet the requirements of
3349 section 16-245a.] Any such agreement shall be subject to review and
3350 approval by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, which review
3351 shall commence upon the filing of the signed power purchase
3352 agreement with the authority. The authority shall issue a decision on
3353 such agreement not later than thirty days after such filing. In the event
3354 the authority does not issue a decision within thirty days after such
3355 agreement is filed with the authority, the agreement shall be deemed
3356 approved. The net costs of any such agreement, including costs incurred
3357 by the electric distribution companies under the agreement and
3358 reasonable costs incurred by the electric distribution companies in
3359 connection with the agreement, shall be recovered through a fully
3360 reconciling component of electric rates for all customers of electric
3361 distribution companies. Certificates issued by the New England Power
3362 Pool Generation Information System for any Class I renewable energy
3363 source procured by an electric distribution company pursuant to this
3364 section shall be disposed of pursuant to the procedures established
3365 pursuant to subsection (g) of section 16-245a, as amended by this act.

3366 Sec. 43. Subsection (c) of section 16a-3n of the general statutes is
3367 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3368 *1, 2025*):

3369 (c) The commissioner may direct the electric distribution companies
3370 to enter into power purchase agreements for energy, capacity, any

3371 transmission associated with such energy derived from offshore wind
3372 facilities that are Class I renewable energy sources as defined in section
3373 16-1, as amended by this act, and environmental attributes, or any
3374 combination thereof, for periods of not more than twenty years on
3375 behalf of all customers of the state's electric distribution companies,
3376 except the commissioner may direct such companies to enter into such
3377 agreements for periods greater than twenty years and not more than
3378 thirty years if the commissioner conducts the solicitation pursuant to
3379 subsection (a) of this section in coordination with one or more states
3380 and, in response to such coordinated solicitation, the applicable officials
3381 of any such state select a proposal for energy, capacity and any
3382 environmental attributes, or any combination thereof, from such
3383 facilities for a period that is greater than twenty years and not more than
3384 thirty years. Certificates issued by the New England Power Pool
3385 Generation Information System for any Class I renewable energy
3386 sources procured by an electric distribution company pursuant to this
3387 section [may be: (1) Sold into the New England Power Pool Generation
3388 Information System renewable energy credit market to be used by any
3389 electric supplier or electric distribution company to meet the
3390 requirements of section 16-245a, provided the revenues from such sale
3391 are credited to electric distribution company customers as described in
3392 this section; or (2) retained by the electric distribution company to meet
3393 the requirements of section 16-245a. In considering whether to sell or
3394 retain such certificates, the company shall select the option that is in the
3395 best interest of such company's ratepayers] shall be disposed of
3396 pursuant to the procedures established pursuant to subsection (g) of
3397 section 16-245a, as amended by this act.

3398 Sec. 44. Subsection (c) of section 16a-3p of the general statutes is
3399 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3400 *1, 2025*):

3401 (c) Certificates issued by the New England Power Pool Generation
3402 Information System procured by an electric distribution company
3403 pursuant to this section [may be: (1) Sold into the New England Power

3404 Pool Generation Information System renewable energy credit market to
3405 be used by any electric supplier or electric distribution company to meet
3406 the requirements of section 16-245a, provided the revenues from such
3407 sale are credited to electric distribution company customers as described
3408 in this section; or (2) retained by the electric distribution company to
3409 meet the requirements of section 16-245a. In considering whether to sell
3410 or retain such certificates, the company shall select the option that is in
3411 the best interest of such company's ratepayers] shall be disposed of
3412 pursuant to the procedures established pursuant to subsection (g) of
3413 section 16-245a, as amended by this act.

3414 Sec. 45. Subsection (j) of section 16a-3a of the general statutes is
3415 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3416 *1, 2025*):

3417 (j) For the Integrated Resources Plan next approved after January 1,
3418 [2019] 2025, the department shall [determine (1)] establish targets for the
3419 quantity of energy the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental
3420 Protection may seek in any solicitation or solicitations of proposals
3421 [initiated on or after January 1, 2020, pursuant to section 16a-3n,
3422 provided the quantity of energy sought in any such solicitations in the
3423 aggregate shall be from resources that have a total nameplate capacity
3424 rating of not more than two thousand megawatts in the aggregate, less
3425 any energy purchased pursuant to section 16a-3n on or before December
3426 31, 2019; and (2) the timing and schedule of any solicitation or
3427 solicitations of proposals initiated on or after January 1, 2020, pursuant
3428 to section 16a-3n, provided such schedule shall provide for the
3429 solicitation of resources with a nameplate capacity rating of two
3430 thousand megawatts in the aggregate, less any energy purchased
3431 pursuant to section 16a-3n on or before December 31, 2019, by December
3432 31, 2030] pursuant to sections 16a-3f, 16a-3g, as amended by this act, 16a-
3433 3h, as amended by this act, 16a-3i, as amended by this act, 16a-3j, 16a-
3434 3m, as amended by this act, 16a-3n, as amended by this act, and 16a-3p,
3435 as amended by this act, and a proposed schedule for such solicitations
3436 for new zero carbon Class I renewable energy resources necessary to

3437 achieve a target of an additional seven per cent of the total load served
3438 by the electric distribution companies in the aggregate by 2030 in
3439 addition to the requirements established pursuant to section 16-245a, as
3440 amended by this act. Such [determinations] targets shall be based on
3441 factors including, but not limited to, electricity system needs identified
3442 by the Integrated Resources Plan, including, but not limited to, capacity,
3443 winter reliability, progress in meeting the goals in the Global Warming
3444 Solutions Act pursuant to section 22a-200a, the priorities of the
3445 Comprehensive Energy Strategy adopted pursuant to section 16a-3d,
3446 positive impacts on the state's economic development, opportunities to
3447 coordinate procurement with other states, forecasted trends in
3448 technology costs and impacts on the state's ratepayers.

3449 Sec. 46. Section 16a-3u of the general statutes is repealed and the
3450 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

3451 (a) For the purposes of this section:

3452 (1) "Existing biomass power purchase agreement" means a power
3453 purchase agreement that: (A) (i) Was entered into by a biomass facility
3454 [that is a Class I renewable energy source] that uses sustainable biomass
3455 fuel and has an average emission rate of less than or equal to .075
3456 pounds of nitrogen oxides per million BTU of heat input for the
3457 previous calendar quarter, or energy derived from a biomass facility
3458 with a capacity of less than five hundred kilowatts that began
3459 construction before July 1, 2003, with an electric distribution company
3460 in the state on or before June 5, 2013, or (ii) was executed in accordance
3461 with a solicitation pursuant to section 16a-3f or 16a-3h, as amended by
3462 this act; and (B) was in effect as of January 1, 2024.

3463 (2) "Eligible biomass facility" means a biomass facility that [is a Class
3464 I renewable energy source] uses sustainable biomass fuel and has an
3465 average emission rate of less than or equal to .075 pounds of nitrogen
3466 oxides per million BTU of heat input for the previous calendar quarter,
3467 or energy derived from a biomass facility with a capacity of less than
3468 five hundred kilowatts that began construction before July 1, 2003, and

3469 that has entered into one or more existing biomass power purchase
3470 agreements.

3471 (3) "Additional biomass power purchase agreement" means a
3472 biomass power purchase agreement that is entered into by an eligible
3473 biomass facility and an electric distribution company pursuant to
3474 subdivision (b) of this section, for [the fraction of] such facility's energy,
3475 capacity and environmental attributes, [of an eligible biomass facility
3476 that was contracted for under an existing biomass power purchase
3477 agreement between such biomass facility and such electric distribution
3478 company] or any combination of such energy and attributes.

3479 (4) ["Class I renewable energy source", "electric distribution
3480 company"] "Electric distribution company" and "electric supplier" have
3481 the same meanings as provided in section 16-1, as amended by this act.

3482 (b) Not later than September 1, 2025, the Commissioner of Energy and
3483 Environmental Protection shall initiate a proceeding to solicit proposals,
3484 in consultation with the procurement manager identified in subsection
3485 (l) of section 16-2, as amended by this act, and the Office of Consumer
3486 Counsel, in one solicitation or multiple solicitations, for energy and
3487 environmental attributes from eligible biomass facilities. The
3488 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may direct any
3489 electric distribution company to enter into one or more additional
3490 biomass power purchase agreements with any eligible biomass facility,
3491 provided any such agreement considers the costs to operate such
3492 facility, is in the best interest of ratepayers, and supports the state's solid
3493 waste management plan pursuant to section 22a-228. Any such
3494 additional power purchase agreement shall [be for] not exceed a period
3495 of ten years. [Certificates issued by the New England Power Pool
3496 Generation Information System for any Class I renewable energy
3497 sources procured by an electric distribution company pursuant to this
3498 section may be: (1) Sold into the New England Power Pool Generation
3499 Information System renewable energy credit market to be used by any
3500 electric supplier or electric distribution company to meet the
3501 requirements of section 16-245a, provided the revenues from such sale

3502 are credited to all customers of the contracting electric distribution
3503 company; or (2) retained by such electric distribution company to meet
3504 the requirements of section 16-245a. In considering whether to sell or
3505 retain such certificates, the company shall select the option that is in the
3506 best interest of such company's ratepayers.]

3507 (c) Any additional biomass power purchase agreement entered into
3508 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be subject to review and
3509 approval by the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority. Such electric
3510 distribution company shall file an application for the approval of any
3511 such additional biomass power purchase agreement with the authority.
3512 The authority shall issue a decision not later than one hundred eighty
3513 days after any such filing. If the authority does not issue a decision
3514 within one hundred eighty days after such filing, such additional
3515 biomass power purchase agreement shall be deemed approved.

3516 (d) The net costs of any such agreement, including costs incurred by
3517 the electric distribution companies under the agreement and reasonable
3518 costs incurred by any electric distribution company in connection with
3519 the agreement, shall be recovered through a fully reconciling
3520 component of electric rates for all customers of such electric distribution
3521 company.

3522 Sec. 47. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) The Commissioner of
3523 Energy and Environmental Protection shall establish an electric active
3524 demand and gas demand response pilot program to reduce electric and
3525 gas demand and improve electric and gas grid resiliency and reliability
3526 in the state. For a period of two years commencing from October 1, 2025,
3527 the commissioner may, in coordination with other states in the control
3528 area of the regional independent system operator, as defined in section
3529 16-1 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or on behalf of the
3530 state alone, issue multiple solicitations for contracts from providers of
3531 resources described in subsection (b) of this section.

3532 (b) The commissioner shall seek proposals for active electric demand
3533 response, or active or passive gas demand response measures pursuant

3534 to the pilot program. Each electric distribution company or gas
3535 company, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, as amended
3536 by this act, shall, in consultation with the Energy Conservation
3537 Management Board established pursuant to section 16-245m of the
3538 general statutes, as amended by this act, assess whether the submission
3539 of a proposal for active and passive demand response measures, as
3540 applicable, is feasible pursuant to any solicitation issued pursuant to
3541 this subsection, provided such proposal only includes demand
3542 reductions that are in addition to existing and projected demand
3543 reductions obtained through the conservation and load management
3544 programs. If the commissioner finds proposals received pursuant to this
3545 section to be in the best interest of electric or gas ratepayers, as
3546 applicable, the commissioner may, on behalf of the customers of electric
3547 distribution companies or gas companies, direct the electric distribution
3548 companies or gas companies to enter into contracts for active or passive
3549 demand response measures that result in electric or gas savings,
3550 provided the benefits of such contracts to customers of electric
3551 distribution companies or gas companies outweigh the costs to such
3552 companies' customers. Any proposals selected pursuant this section
3553 shall not, in the aggregate, exceed ten per cent of the load distributed by
3554 the state's electric distribution or gas companies in the aggregate.

3555 (c) Any agreement entered into pursuant to this section shall be
3556 subject to review and approval by the Public Utilities Regulatory
3557 Authority. The electric distribution company or gas company, as
3558 applicable, shall file an application for the approval of any such
3559 agreement with the authority. The authority shall approve such
3560 agreement if it is cost effective and in the best interest of electric or gas
3561 ratepayers. The authority shall issue a decision not later than ninety
3562 days after such filing. If the authority does not issue a decision within
3563 ninety days after such filing, the agreement shall be deemed approved.
3564 The net costs of any such agreement, including reasonable costs
3565 incurred by the gas company under the agreement shall be recovered
3566 on a timely basis through the conservation adjustment mechanism
3567 established pursuant to section 16-245m of the general statutes, as

3568 amended by this act, and reasonable costs incurred by the electric
3569 distribution company under the agreement shall be recovered on a
3570 timely basis through the nonbypassable federally mandated congestion
3571 charge, as defined in subsection (a) of section 16-1 of the general statutes,
3572 as amended by this act.

3573 (d) The commissioner may hire consultants with expertise in
3574 quantitative modeling of electric or gas markets, and physical electric or
3575 gas system modeling, as applicable, to assist in implementing this
3576 section, including, but not limited to, the evaluation of proposals
3577 submitted pursuant to this section. All reasonable costs, not exceeding
3578 one million five hundred thousand dollars, associated with the
3579 commissioner's solicitation and review of proposals pursuant to this
3580 section shall be recoverable through the conservation adjustment
3581 mechanism established pursuant to section 16-245m of the general
3582 statutes, as amended by this act, for gas companies or the nonbypassable
3583 federally mandated congestion charge, as defined in section 16-1 of the
3584 general statutes, as amended by this act, for electric distribution
3585 companies. Such costs shall be recoverable even if the commissioner
3586 does not select any proposals pursuant to solicitations issued pursuant
3587 to this section.

3588 (e) On or before January 1, 2028, the commissioner shall conduct an
3589 evaluation of the electric and gas demand response pilot program. Such
3590 evaluation shall address the overall effectiveness of the pilot program in
3591 benefiting electric and gas ratepayers in the state. The commissioner
3592 shall submit, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
3593 general statutes, such evaluation and any recommendations for
3594 legislation to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly
3595 having cognizance of matters relating to energy and technology.

3596 Sec. 48. Subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 16-245m of the
3597 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3598 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3599 (d) (1) Not later than November 1, 2012, and every three years

thereafter, electric distribution companies, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, in coordination with the gas companies, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, shall submit to the Energy Conservation Management Board a combined electric and gas Conservation and Load Management Plan, in accordance with the provisions of this section, to implement cost-effective energy conservation programs, demand management and market transformation initiatives. All supply and conservation and load management options shall be evaluated and selected within an integrated supply and demand planning framework. Services provided under the plan shall be available to all customers of electric distribution companies and gas companies, provided a customer of an electric distribution company may not be denied such services based on the fuel such customer uses to heat such customer's home. The Energy Conservation Management Board shall advise and assist the electric distribution companies and gas companies in the development of such plan. The Energy Conservation Management Board shall approve the plan before transmitting it to the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection for approval. The commissioner shall, in an uncontested proceeding during which the commissioner may hold a public meeting, approve, modify or reject said plan prepared pursuant to this subsection. Following approval by the commissioner, the board shall assist the companies in implementing the plan and collaborate with the Connecticut Green Bank to further the goals of the plan. Said plan shall include a detailed budget sufficient to fund all energy efficiency that is cost-effective or lower cost than acquisition of equivalent supply, and shall be reviewed and approved by the commissioner. The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall, not later than sixty days after the plan is approved by the commissioner, ensure that the balance of revenues required to fund such plan is provided through fully reconciling conservation adjustment mechanisms. Electric distribution companies shall collect a conservation adjustment mechanism that ensures the plan is fully funded by collecting an amount that is not more than the sum of six mills per kilowatt hour of electricity sold to each end use customer of an electric distribution

3635 company during the three years of any Conservation and Load
3636 Management Plan. The authority shall ensure that the revenues
3637 required to fund such plan with regard to gas companies are provided
3638 through a fully reconciling conservation adjustment mechanism for
3639 each gas company of not more than the equivalent of four and six-tenth
3640 cents per hundred cubic feet during the three years of any Conservation
3641 and Load Management Plan, provided such companies may exceed the
3642 equivalent of four and six-tenth cents per hundred cubic feet to fund the
3643 net costs of any agreement approved pursuant to section 47 of this act.
3644 Said plan shall include steps that would be needed to achieve the goal
3645 of weatherization of eighty per cent of the state's residential units by
3646 2030, and steps to reduce energy consumption by 1.6 million MMBtu, or
3647 the equivalent megawatts of electricity, as defined in subdivision (4) of
3648 section 22a-197, annually each year for calendar years commencing on
3649 and after January 1, 2020, up to and including calendar year 2025. Each
3650 program contained in the plan shall be reviewed by such companies and
3651 accepted, modified or rejected by the Energy Conservation
3652 Management Board prior to submission to the commissioner for
3653 approval. The Energy Conservation Management Board shall, as part of
3654 its review, examine opportunities to offer joint programs providing
3655 similar efficiency measures that save more than one fuel resource or
3656 otherwise to coordinate programs targeted at saving more than one fuel
3657 resource. Any costs for joint programs shall be allocated equitably
3658 among the conservation programs. The Energy Conservation
3659 Management Board shall give preference to projects that maximize the
3660 reduction of federally mandated congestion charges.

3661 Sec. 49. Subsection (i) of section 16a-3j of the general statutes is
3662 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3663 *1, 2025*):

3664 (i) Certificates issued by the New England Power Pool Generation
3665 Information System for any Class I renewable energy source or Class III
3666 source procured by an electric distribution company pursuant to this
3667 section [may be: (1) Sold into the New England Power Pool Generation

3668 Information System renewable energy credit market to be used by any
3669 electric supplier or electric distribution company to meet the
3670 requirements of section 16-245a, so long as the revenues from such sale
3671 are credited to electric distribution company customers as described in
3672 this subsection; or (2) retained by the electric distribution company to
3673 meet the requirements of section 16-245a. In considering whether to sell
3674 or retain such certificates the company shall select the option that is in
3675 the best interest of such company's ratepayers] shall be disposed of
3676 pursuant to the procedures established pursuant to subsection (g) of
3677 section 16-245a, as amended by this act.

3678 Sec. 50. Subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 16a-3n of the
3679 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3680 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3681 (3) In any solicitation initiated pursuant to this section on or after July
3682 1, 2024, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection
3683 shall include requirements for contract commitments in selected bids
3684 that require bidders selected pursuant to subsection (b) of this section,
3685 including any providers of associated transmission, when employing or
3686 contracting with fishermen for support services such as scouting for
3687 fishing gear or serving as a safety vessel in a construction zone, for any
3688 project selected by the state or in proportion to the state share of any
3689 project selected by multiple states or other entities, to use best efforts to
3690 award such contracts or employment to state commercial fishing
3691 licensees, all other factors being equal. Such requirements shall include:
3692 (A) The maintenance of records that document the use of such best
3693 efforts and the filing of a monthly report with the Department of
3694 Economic and Community Development that describes such best
3695 efforts, on a form prescribed by said department; and (B) a provision
3696 that any fishermen that such providers employ or contract with to
3697 provide support services shall: (i) Meet training and certification
3698 standards described in the International Convention on Standards of
3699 Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, as amended
3700 from time to time; and (ii) prior to providing any such support services,

3701 undergo inspection in accordance with the International Marine
3702 Contractors Association's marine inspection for small workboats
3703 inspection document. The Coast Guard or any inspector accredited
3704 through the accredited vessel inspector program operated by the Marine
3705 Surveying Academy of the International Institute of Marine Surveying
3706 or the United States National Association of Marine Surveyors may
3707 conduct such an inspection.

3708 Sec. 51. Section 16-2 of the general statutes is repealed and the
3709 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3710 (a) There shall continue to be a Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
3711 within the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for
3712 administrative purposes only, which shall consist of five electors of this
3713 state, appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of both
3714 houses of the General Assembly. Not more than three [members of said
3715 authority] utility commissioners in office at any one time shall be
3716 members of any one political party. The Governor shall appoint five
3717 members to the authority. The procedure prescribed in section 4-7 shall
3718 apply to such appointments, except that the Governor shall submit each
3719 nomination on or before May first, and both houses shall confirm or
3720 reject it before adjournment sine die. [Any utility commissioner
3721 appointed by the Governor and confirmed by both chambers of the
3722 General Assembly between February 1, 2019, and June 1, 2019, shall
3723 serve a term expiring on March 1, 2024. Any utility commissioner
3724 appointed by the Governor and confirmed by both houses of the
3725 General Assembly between February 1, 2018, and June 1, 2018, shall
3726 serve a term expiring on March 1, 2022. Between July 1, 2019, and May
3727 1, 2020, the Governor shall appoint three utility commissioners,
3728 provided one such commissioner shall serve a term expiring on March
3729 1, 2021, and two such commissioners shall serve terms expiring on
3730 March 1, 2023.] Any utility commissioner appointed on or after [May 1,
3731 2020] January 1, 2025, shall serve a term [of four years] beginning on the
3732 date such utility commissioner is appointed and qualified and
3733 continuing for four years from the July first immediately following the

3734 date of appointment by the Governor, and may continue in office until
3735 a successor is appointed and qualified. The utility commissioners shall
3736 be sworn to the faithful performance of their duties. The chairperson of
3737 the authority shall be the administrative head of the authority.

3738 (b) Not later than June 30, 2023, and between June first and June
3739 thirtieth in each odd-numbered year thereafter, the Governor shall
3740 select the chairperson of the authority from among the utility
3741 commissioners. The chairperson shall serve a two-year term starting on
3742 July first of the same year. Each June, the utility commissioners shall
3743 choose, from among said commissioners, a vice-chairperson, who shall
3744 serve for a one-year term starting on July first of the same year. The vice-
3745 chairperson shall perform the duties of the chairperson in his or her
3746 absence.

3747 (c) Any matter coming before the authority may be assigned by the
3748 chairperson to a panel of three or more utility commissioners, except
3749 that proceedings to amend rates conducted pursuant to section 16-19, as
3750 amended by this act, shall consist of all the appointed and qualifying
3751 utility commissioners. If a panel consists of three utility commissioners,
3752 not more than two members of the panel shall be members of any one
3753 political party. Except as otherwise provided by statute or regulation,
3754 the panel shall determine whether a public hearing shall be held on the
3755 matter, and may designate one or more of its members to conduct such
3756 hearing or may assign a hearing officer to ascertain the facts and report
3757 thereon to the panel. The decision of the panel, if unanimous, shall be
3758 the decision of the authority. If the decision of the panel is not
3759 unanimous, the matter shall be approved by a majority vote of the utility
3760 commissioners. The votes of each utility commissioner on any decision
3761 shall be reduced to writing, recorded in the minutes of the session at
3762 which such vote was taken, and posted on the Internet web site of the
3763 authority within forty-eight hours of such vote.

3764 (d) The utility commissioners of the Public Utilities Regulatory
3765 Authority shall serve full time and shall file a statement of financial
3766 interests with the Office of State Ethics in accordance with section 1-83.

3767 Each utility commissioner shall receive annually a salary equal to that
3768 established for management pay plan salary group seventy-five by the
3769 Commissioner of Administrative Services, except that the chairperson
3770 shall receive annually a salary equal to that established for management
3771 pay plan salary group seventy-seven.

3772 (e) To [insure] ensure the highest standard of public utility
3773 regulation, on and after October 1, 2007, any newly appointed utility
3774 commissioner of the authority shall have education or training and three
3775 or more years of experience in one or more of the following fields:
3776 Economics, engineering, law, accounting, finance, utility regulation,
3777 public or government administration, consumer advocacy, business
3778 management, and environmental management. On and after July 1,
3779 1997, at least three of these fields shall be represented on the authority
3780 by individual utility commissioners at all times. Any time a utility
3781 commissioner is newly appointed, at least one of the utility
3782 commissioners shall have experience in utility customer advocacy.

3783 (f) (1) The chairperson of the authority [, with the approval of the
3784 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection,] shall prescribe
3785 the duties of the staff [assigned to] of the authority [in order to (A)
3786 conduct comprehensive planning with respect to the functions of the
3787 authority; (B) cause the administrative organization of the authority to
3788 be examined with a view to promoting economy and efficiency; and (C)]
3789 and organize the authority into such divisions, bureaus or other units as
3790 necessary for the efficient conduct of the business of the authority. [and
3791 may from time to time make recommendations to the Commissioner of
3792 Energy and Environmental Protection regarding staff and resources.]

3793 (2) The chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority [, in
3794 order to implement the comprehensive planning and organizational
3795 structure established pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection,]
3796 shall: (A) [coordinate] Coordinate the activities of the authority and
3797 prescribe the duties of the staff [assigned to] of the authority, including,
3798 but not limited to, assigning staff to fulfill the duties of the procurement
3799 manager where required pursuant to titles 16 and 16a; (B) for any

3800 proceeding on a proposed rate amendment in which staff of the
3801 authority are to be made a party pursuant to section 16-19j, determine
3802 which staff shall appear and participate in the proceedings and which
3803 shall serve the [members of the authority] utility commissioners; (C)
3804 enter into such contractual agreements, in accordance with established
3805 procedures, as may be necessary for the discharge of the authority's
3806 duties; (D) subject to the provisions of section 4-32, and unless otherwise
3807 provided by law, receive any money, revenue or services from the
3808 federal government, corporations, associations or individuals,
3809 including payments from the sale of printed matter or any other
3810 material or services; [and] (E) require the staff of the authority to have
3811 expertise in public utility engineering and accounting, finance,
3812 economics, computers and rate design; and (F) ensure that utility
3813 commissioners who choose to write a concurring or dissenting opinion
3814 are provided staff to assist in writing such opinion.

3815 (g) No utility commissioner [of the Public Utilities Regulatory
3816 Authority or employee of the Department of Energy and Environmental
3817 Protection assigned to work with the authority] or employee of the
3818 authority shall have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or
3819 indirect, or engage in any business, employment, transaction or
3820 professional activity, or incur any obligation of any nature, which is in
3821 substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his or her duties or
3822 employment in the public interest and of his or her responsibilities as
3823 prescribed in the laws of this state, as defined in section 1-85, concerning
3824 any matter within the jurisdiction of the authority; provided, no such
3825 substantial conflict shall be deemed to exist solely by virtue of the fact
3826 that a utility commissioner of the authority or employee of the
3827 department assigned to work with the authority, or any business in
3828 which such a person has an interest, receives utility service from one or
3829 more Connecticut utilities under the normal rates and conditions of
3830 service.

3831 (h) No utility commissioner [of the Public Utilities Regulatory
3832 Authority or employee of the Department of Energy and Environmental

3833 Protection assigned to work with the authority, during such
3834 assignment,] or employee of the authority shall accept other
3835 employment which will either impair his or her independence of
3836 judgment as to his or her official duties or employment. [or] No current
3837 or former utility commissioner or employee of the authority shall accept
3838 other employment that would require him or her, or induce him or her,
3839 to disclose confidential information acquired by him or her in the course
3840 of and by reason of his or her official duties.

3841 (i) No utility commissioner [of the Public Utilities Regulatory
3842 Authority or employee of the Department of Energy and Environmental
3843 Protection assigned to work with the authority, during such
3844 assignment,] or employee of the authority shall wilfully and knowingly
3845 disclose, for pecuniary gain, to any other person, confidential
3846 information acquired by him or her in the course of and by reason of his
3847 or her official duties or employment or use any such information for the
3848 purpose of pecuniary gain.

3849 (j) No utility commissioner [of the Public Utilities Regulatory
3850 Authority or employee of the Department of Energy and Environmental
3851 Protection assigned to work with the authority, during such
3852 assignment,] or employee of the authority shall agree to accept, or be in
3853 partnership or association with any person, or a member of a
3854 professional corporation or in membership with any union or
3855 professional association which partnership, association, professional
3856 corporation, union or professional association agrees to accept any
3857 employment, fee or other thing of value, or portion thereof, in
3858 consideration of his or her appearing, agreeing to appear, or taking any
3859 other action on behalf of another person before the authority, the
3860 Connecticut Siting Council, the Office of Policy and Management or the
3861 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection.

3862 (k) [No] On and after July 1, 2025, no utility commissioner [of the
3863 Public Utilities Regulatory Authority] shall, for a period of one year
3864 following the termination of his or her service as a utility commissioner,
3865 accept employment: (1) By a public service company or by any person,

3866 firm or corporation engaged in lobbying activities or legal
3867 representation with regard to governmental regulation of public service
3868 companies; (2) by a certified telecommunications provider or by any
3869 person, firm or corporation engaged in lobbying activities or legal
3870 representation with regard to governmental regulation of persons, firms
3871 or corporations so certified; [or] (3) by an electric supplier or by any
3872 person, firm or corporation engaged in lobbying activities or legal
3873 representation with regard to governmental regulation of electric
3874 suppliers; or (4) by any related entity, as defined in section 12-218c, of
3875 any entity described in subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, of this
3876 subsection, for any purpose described in subdivisions (1) to (3),
3877 inclusive, of this subsection. No such utility commissioner [who is also
3878 an attorney] shall in any capacity, appear or participate in any matter,
3879 or accept any compensation regarding a matter, before the authority, for
3880 a period of one year following the termination of his or her service as a
3881 utility commissioner.

3882 (l) The chairperson of the authority shall assign authority staff to
3883 fulfill the duties of procurement manager where required pursuant to
3884 this title and title 16a.

3885 (m) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the
3886 decisions of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, including, but not
3887 limited to, decisions relating to rate amendments arising from the
3888 Comprehensive Energy Strategy, the Integrated Resources Plan, the
3889 Conservation and Load Management Plan and policies established by
3890 the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, shall be
3891 guided by said strategy and plans and such policies.

3892 (n) Two or more utility commissioners serving on a panel established
3893 pursuant to subsection (c) of this section may confer or communicate
3894 regarding the matter before such panel. Any such conference or
3895 communication that does not occur before the public at a hearing or
3896 proceeding shall not constitute a meeting as defined in section 1-200.

3897 Sec. 52. Section 16-2a of the general statutes is repealed and the

3898 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3899 (a) There shall be an independent Office of Consumer Counsel,
3900 within the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, for
3901 administrative purposes only, to act as the advocate for consumer
3902 interests in all matters which may affect [Connecticut] consumers in the
3903 state with respect to public service companies, electric suppliers and
3904 certified telecommunications providers, including, but not limited to,
3905 rates and related issues, ratepayer-funded programs and matters
3906 concerning the reliability, maintenance, operations, infrastructure and
3907 quality of service of such companies, suppliers and providers. The
3908 Office of Consumer Counsel is authorized to appear in and participate
3909 in any regulatory or judicial proceedings, federal or state, in which such
3910 interests of [Connecticut] consumers in the state may be involved, or in
3911 which matters affecting utility services rendered or to be rendered in
3912 this state may be involved. The Office of Consumer Counsel shall be a
3913 party to each contested case before the Public Utilities Regulatory
3914 Authority and shall participate in [such proceedings] any such
3915 contested case to the extent [it] the Office of Consumer Counsel deems
3916 necessary. [Said] The Office of Consumer Counsel may appeal from a
3917 decision, order or authorization in any such state regulatory proceeding
3918 [notwithstanding its failure to appear or participate in said] regardless
3919 of whether the Office of Consumer Counsel appeared or participated in
3920 such proceeding.

3921 (b) Except as prohibited by the provisions of section 4-181, the Office
3922 of Consumer Counsel shall have access to the records of the Public
3923 Utilities Regulatory Authority and shall be entitled to call upon the
3924 assistance of the authority's and the [department's] Department of
3925 Energy and Environmental Protection's experts, and shall have the
3926 benefit of all other facilities or information of the authority or the
3927 department in carrying out the duties of the Office of Consumer
3928 Counsel, except for such internal documents, information or data [as]
3929 that are not available to parties to the authority's proceedings. The
3930 department shall provide such space as necessary within the

3931 department's quarters for the operation of the Office of Consumer
3932 Counsel, and the department shall be empowered to set regulations
3933 providing for adequate compensation for the provision of such office
3934 space.

3935 (c) There [~~shall be~~] is established an Office of State Broadband within
3936 the Office of Consumer Counsel. The Office of State Broadband shall
3937 work to facilitate the availability of broadband access to every [state
3938 citizen] resident of the state and to increase access to and the adoption
3939 of ultra-high-speed gigabit capable broadband networks. The Office of
3940 Consumer Counsel may work in collaboration with public and
3941 nonprofit entities and state agencies, and may provide advisory
3942 assistance to municipalities, local authorities and private corporations
3943 for the purpose of maximizing opportunities for the expansion of
3944 broadband access in the state and fostering innovative approaches to
3945 broadband in the state, including the procurement of grants for such
3946 purpose. The Office of State Broadband shall include a Broadband
3947 Policy Coordinator and such other staff as the Consumer Counsel deems
3948 necessary to perform the duties of the Office of State Broadband.

3949 (d) The Office of Consumer Counsel shall be under the direction of
3950 [a] the Consumer Counsel, who shall be appointed by the Governor
3951 with the advice and consent of either house of the General Assembly.
3952 The Consumer Counsel shall be an elector of this state and shall have
3953 demonstrated a strong commitment and involvement in efforts to
3954 safeguard the rights of the public. The Consumer Counsel shall serve
3955 for a term of five years unless removed pursuant to section 16-5. The
3956 salary of the Consumer Counsel shall be equal to that established for
3957 management pay plan salary group seventy-one by the Commissioner
3958 of Administrative Services. No Consumer Counsel shall, for a period of
3959 one year following the termination of service as Consumer Counsel,
3960 accept employment by a public service company, a certified
3961 telecommunications provider or an electric supplier. No Consumer
3962 Counsel who is also an attorney shall, in any capacity, appear or
3963 participate in any matter, or accept any compensation regarding a

3964 matter, before the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, for a period of
3965 one year following the termination of service as Consumer Counsel.

3966 (e) The Consumer Counsel shall hire such staff as necessary to
3967 perform the duties of [said] the Office of Consumer Counsel and may
3968 [employ] retain from time to time outside consultants knowledgeable in
3969 [the utility regulation field] utilities regulation, including, but not
3970 limited to, economists, capital cost experts, [and] rate design experts and
3971 engineers. The salaries and qualifications of the [individuals] staff so
3972 hired shall be determined by the Commissioner of Administrative
3973 Services pursuant to section 4-40.

3974 (f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent any party
3975 interested in such proceeding or action from appearing in person or
3976 from being represented by counsel therein.

3977 (g) As used in this section, "consumer" means any person [, city,
3978 borough or town] or municipality, as defined in section 7-148, that
3979 receives service from any public service company, electric supplier or
3980 from any certified telecommunications provider in this state whether or
3981 not such person [, city, borough or town] or municipality is financially
3982 responsible for such service.

3983 (h) The Office of Consumer Counsel shall not be required to post a
3984 bond as a condition to presenting an appeal from any state regulatory
3985 decision, order or authorization.

3986 (i) The expenses of the Office of Consumer Counsel shall be assessed
3987 in accordance with the provisions of section 16-49.

3988 (j) Any proprietary commercial and proprietary financial information
3989 of a holding company or subsidiary provided to the Office of Consumer
3990 Counsel pursuant to subsection (c) of section 16-8c, as amended by this
3991 act, shall be confidential and protected by the Office of Consumer
3992 Counsel, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 14. No employee
3993 of the Office of Consumer Counsel shall wilfully and knowingly
3994 disclose, for pecuniary gain, to any other person, confidential

3995 information acquired by such employee in the course of and by reason
3996 of such employee's official duties or employment or use any such
3997 information for the purpose of pecuniary gain.

3998 Sec. 53. Subsection (d) of section 16-19b of the general statutes is
3999 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
4000 *1, 2025*):

4001 (d) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall adjust the retail
4002 rate charged by each electric distribution company for electric
4003 transmission services periodically to recover all transmission costs
4004 prudently incurred by each electric distribution company. The Public
4005 Utilities Regulatory Authority, after notice and hearing, shall design the
4006 retail transmission rate to provide for recovery of all Federal Energy
4007 Regulatory Commission approved transmission costs, rates, tariffs and
4008 charges and of other transmission costs prudently incurred by an
4009 electric distribution company in accordance with section 16-19e.
4010 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 16-19, as amended by this act,
4011 the authority shall adjust the retail transmission rate in accordance with
4012 the provisions of subsections (e) and (h) of this section and to fund costs
4013 associated with retaining consultants for the Department of Energy and
4014 Environmental Protection and the Office of Consumer Counsel to enable
4015 said department and said office to participate in proceedings of the
4016 Connecticut Siting Council, and evaluations and analysis conducted
4017 pursuant to section 27 of this act. A transmission rate adjustment clause
4018 approved pursuant to this section shall apply to all electric distribution
4019 companies similarly affected by transmission costs. The Public Utilities
4020 Regulatory Authority's authority to review the prudence of costs shall
4021 not apply to any matter over which any agency, department or
4022 instrumentality of the federal government has exclusive jurisdiction, or
4023 has jurisdiction concurrent with that of the state and has exercised such
4024 jurisdiction to the exclusion of regulation of such matter by the state.

4025 Sec. 54. Subsection (c) of section 16-8c of the general statutes is
4026 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
4027 *1, 2025*):

4028 (c) [Proprietary] Any proprietary commercial and proprietary
4029 financial information of a holding company or subsidiary provided
4030 pursuant to this section shall (1) be confidential and protected by the
4031 authority, subject to the provisions of section 4-177, and (2) be provided
4032 to the Office of Consumer Counsel.

4033 Sec. 55. Section 16-6b of the general statutes is repealed and the
4034 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

4035 The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority may, in accordance with
4036 chapter 54, adopt such regulations with respect to: (1) Rates and charges,
4037 services, accounting practices, safety and the conduct of operations
4038 generally of public service companies subject to its jurisdiction as it
4039 deems reasonable and necessary; (2) services, accounting practices,
4040 safety and the conduct of operations generally of electric suppliers
4041 subject to its jurisdiction as it deems reasonable and necessary; and (3)
4042 standards for systems utilizing cogeneration technology and renewable
4043 fuel resources. [, in accordance with the Department of Energy and
4044 Environmental Protection's policies.]

4045 Sec. 56. Subsection (b) of section 16-19 of the general statutes is
4046 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
4047 *passage*):

4048 (b) [If] (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this section, if the
4049 authority has not made [its] a finding [respecting] with respect to an
4050 amendment of any (A) electric distribution or gas company rate within
4051 three hundred fifty days from the proposed effective date of such
4052 amendment thereof, or [if the authority has not made its finding
4053 respecting an amendment of any] (B) public service company rate,
4054 except an electric distribution or a gas company rate, within two
4055 hundred seventy days from the proposed effective date of such
4056 amendment thereof, and if the company files assurance satisfactory to
4057 the authority, such amendment [may] shall become effective, pending
4058 the authority's finding with respect to such amendment. [upon the filing
4059 by the company with the authority of assurance satisfactory to the

4060 authority, which] Such assurance may include a bond with surety [,] of
4061 the company's ability and willingness to refund to its customers with
4062 interest such amounts as the company may collect from [them in excess
4063 of] such customers exceeding the rates fixed by the authority in [its] the
4064 authority's finding or fixed at the conclusion of any appeal taken as a
4065 result of a finding by the authority.

4066 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, the authority may
4067 extend the time described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision
4068 (1) of this subsection to make a finding concerning a rate amendment
4069 application if such application is filed by a public service company
4070 having more than seventy-five thousand customers not later than sixty
4071 days after the filing of a rate amendment application by another public
4072 service company having more than seventy-five thousand customers.
4073 The extension of such time to make a finding by the authority pursuant
4074 to this subdivision shall not exceed ninety days.

4075 Sec. 57. Subsection (a) of section 16-243ee of the general statutes is
4076 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
4077 *1, 2025*):

4078 (a) On or before January 1, 2022, the Public Utilities Regulatory
4079 Authority shall initiate a proceeding to develop and implement one or
4080 more programs, and associated funding mechanisms, for electric energy
4081 storage resources connected to the electric distribution system. The
4082 authority shall establish (1) one or more programs for the residential
4083 class of electric customers, and (2) one or more programs for commercial
4084 and industrial classes of electric customers. [, and (3) a program for
4085 energy storage systems connected to the distribution system in front of
4086 the meter and not located at a customer premises.] The authority shall
4087 solicit input from the Department of Energy and Environmental
4088 Protection, the Connecticut Green Bank, the electric distribution
4089 companies and the Office of Consumer Counsel in developing such
4090 programs.

4091 Sec. 58. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes of this

4092 section, "system load factor" means the average load in megawatts on
4093 an electric distribution company's system divided by the peak load in
4094 megawatts on such system.

4095 (b) To reduce structural inefficiencies in the electric transmission and
4096 distribution systems in the state and improve the affordability of
4097 electricity for ratepayers, it shall be the goal of the state to maximize the
4098 efficiency and utilization of such systems and to ensure that any
4099 programs funded by ratepayers are cost-effective and focused on
4100 affordability, reliability and decarbonization. To achieve the goals set
4101 forth in this section, the state shall seek to (1) improve electric system
4102 utilization by improving the system load factor, (2) analyze customer
4103 usage patterns and the efficacy of investments in electrification projects
4104 and grid-scale electricity storage projects, (3) develop and implement
4105 policies and incentives to encourage the dispatch of energy generated
4106 by distributed solar photovoltaic systems installed behind customer
4107 electric meters, and (4) study and report on methods to promote
4108 business growth in the state through electric load growing energy
4109 policies. The implementation of such goals shall be consistent with the
4110 emission reduction goals set forth in 22a-200a of the general statutes.

4111 (c) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, through programs
4112 administered by the authority and the regulation of electric distribution
4113 companies in the state, may establish specific goals and metrics aligned
4114 with the electric system efficiency goal specified in subsection (b) of this
4115 section. Programs administered by the authority to meet such goal may
4116 include, but need not be limited to, incentives for the dispatch of energy
4117 generated by distributed solar photovoltaic systems installed behind
4118 customer electric meters for the purpose of increasing the system load
4119 factor. For any program implemented under this section, the benefits to
4120 ratepayers shall exceed the costs to ratepayers.

4121 (d) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may
4122 establish specific goals and metrics aligned with the electric system
4123 efficiency goal specified in subsection (b) of this section through the
4124 approval of the Integrated Resources Plan pursuant to section 16a-3a of

4125 the general statutes, as amended by this act, and may establish
4126 programs, within available appropriations and authority, to promote
4127 load factor growth. Such programs may include, but need not be limited
4128 to, investments in electrification projects and grid-scale electricity
4129 storage projects. For any program implemented under this section, the
4130 benefits to ratepayers shall exceed the costs to ratepayers.

4131 (e) The commissioner shall allocate staff within the energy bureau of
4132 the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for the
4133 purpose of (1) analyzing customer usage patterns and the efficacy of
4134 investments in electrification projects and grid-scale electricity storage
4135 projects, (2) studying and reporting on methods to promote business
4136 growth in the state through electric load growing energy policies, and
4137 (3) long-term planning concerning the development of a more efficient,
4138 cost-effective electric system that actively aligns procurement, grid
4139 operations and customer usage behavior to reduce ratepayer costs and
4140 improve electric system efficiency.

4141 (f) Not later than April 1, 2026, and annually thereafter through April
4142 1, 2041, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, in
4143 coordination with the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, shall report
4144 on (1) the annual load factor and daily load factors for the prior calendar
4145 year for each electric distribution company, (2) any policies and
4146 strategies adopted through an authority proceeding to promote the
4147 achievement of the system efficiency goal established in subsection (b)
4148 of this section, including the costs and benefits of any program
4149 implemented pursuant to this section, and (3) any cost-effective policies
4150 or programs the legislature may adopt to promote the achievement of
4151 such system efficiency goal. The commissioner may consult with, and
4152 request data from, the electric distribution companies to assist in the
4153 preparation of such report. The commissioner shall submit such report,
4154 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, of the general statutes
4155 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
4156 cognizance of matters related to energy and technology.

4157 Sec. 59. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section:

4158 (1) "Solar photovoltaic system" means equipment and devices (A)
4159 that have the primary purpose of collecting solar energy and generating
4160 electricity by photovoltaic effect, (B) that have a nameplate capacity
4161 greater than one megawatt of electricity and such nameplate capacity
4162 exceeds the load for the location where such generation is located, and
4163 (C) for which the owner of such equipment and devices receives, on or
4164 after July 1, 2026, permission to operate from an electric distribution
4165 company, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, as amended
4166 by this act, or a municipal utility furnishing electricity;

4167 (2) "Municipality" means any town, city, consolidated town and city
4168 or consolidated town and borough; and

4169 (3) "Uniform solar capacity tax year" means the annual accounting
4170 period used to calculate the tax under this section, consisting of a
4171 twelve-month period commencing on July first and ending the
4172 following June thirtieth.

4173 (b) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection and
4174 subsection (h) of this section, for uniform solar capacity tax years
4175 commencing on and after July 1, 2026, each person that owns a solar
4176 photovoltaic system in the state for generation or displacement of
4177 energy shall pay an annual tax for a period of twenty solar capacity tax
4178 years to the department of finance of each municipality in which the
4179 system or any part thereof is located, or, if the municipality does not
4180 have a department of finance, to the tax collector for such municipality.
4181 For any solar photovoltaic system that receives permission to operate in
4182 the uniform solar capacity tax year commencing on and after July 1,
4183 2026, the tax shall be, for the duration of the twenty-year period such
4184 tax is imposed, the product of ten thousand dollars multiplied by the
4185 number of megawatts, and any fractional portion thereof, of nameplate
4186 capacity for each such system. If a solar photovoltaic system has
4187 multiple owners, each owner shall be jointly and severally liable for the
4188 tax owed pursuant to this section.

4189 (2) Each person that owns a solar photovoltaic system in the state that

4190 receives, on or after July 1, 2026, permission to operate shall notify, not
4191 later than seven days after the date of such receipt, the department of
4192 finance of each municipality in which the system or any part thereof is
4193 located or, if the municipality does not have a department of finance,
4194 the tax collector for such municipality, of the effective date of such
4195 permission to operate.

4196 (3) The tax imposed under this section shall not apply to solar
4197 photovoltaic systems in the state that (A) are located on (i) state-owned
4198 land, (ii) brownfields, as defined in section 32-760 of the general statutes,
4199 (iii) landfills, (iv) residential, commercial or industrial rooftops, or (v)
4200 solar canopies, as defined in section 8-2q of the general statutes, or (B)
4201 are part of a microgrid serving a critical facility, as those terms are
4202 defined in section 16-243y of the general statutes.

4203 (c) The Office of Policy and Management shall develop a form to be
4204 submitted with the tax due under this section. Not later than July 31,
4205 2026, the department of finance in each municipality, or, for any
4206 municipality that does not have a department of finance, the tax
4207 collector of such municipality, shall furnish such form upon request.
4208 The tax imposed under this section shall be due and payable on the due
4209 date or due dates of such return, as determined by the department of
4210 finance or tax collector, as applicable. The department of finance or tax
4211 collector, as applicable, may require a single annual payment of the tax
4212 imposed under this section or may require semiannual or quarterly
4213 installments of such payment. Such tax shall be due and collectible as
4214 other property taxes and subject to the same liens and processes of
4215 collection.

4216 (d) The revenues generated by the tax imposed under this section
4217 shall become part of the general revenue of the municipality in which
4218 the tax is paid.

4219 (e) If a solar photovoltaic system is located in more than one
4220 municipality, the tax shall be allocated between or among the
4221 municipalities in proportion to the nameplate capacity of the solar

4222 photovoltaic system located in each municipality.

4223 (f) Whenever the tax imposed under this section is not paid when due
4224 to the department of finance or tax collector, as applicable, in a
4225 municipality, interest at the rate of one and one-half per cent per month
4226 or fraction thereof shall accrue on such tax from the due date of such tax
4227 until the date of payment.

4228 (g) Any person claiming to be aggrieved by the action of a
4229 department of finance or tax collector under this section may appeal the
4230 tax to the superior court for the judicial district in which the
4231 municipality is located. Any person appealing the tax that pays a
4232 portion of such tax during the pendency of such appeal and indicates
4233 that such portion is paid "under protest" shall not be liable for any
4234 interest on the tax, provided such person pays not less than seventy-five
4235 per cent of the amount of the tax assessed by the municipality during
4236 the time limits prescribed by the department of finance or tax collector,
4237 as applicable, in such municipality in accordance with this section.

4238 (h) (1) Any municipality acting through its board of selectmen, town
4239 council, court of common council or other legislative body shall have
4240 the power to enter into an agreement to freeze or stabilize the tax
4241 imposed under this section for any owner of a solar photovoltaic system
4242 located in such municipality, as provided in this subsection.

4243 (2) With respect to any photovoltaic system located in more than one
4244 municipality, such agreement shall only pertain to the tax that is
4245 allocated, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (e) of this
4246 section, to the municipality that enters into such agreement.

4247 (i) For purposes of calculating the nameplate capacity of a solar
4248 photovoltaic system, the following shall be deemed to be part of the
4249 same solar photovoltaic system: (1) All equipment and devices that have
4250 the primary purpose of collecting solar energy and generating electricity
4251 by photovoltaic effect that are located on the same parcel; (2) all
4252 equipment and devices that have the primary purpose of collecting solar

energy and generating electricity by photovoltaic effect that are located on land that the current owner of any part of such land subdivided into multiple parcels but was part of the same parcel prior to such subdivision; and (3) all equipment and devices that have the primary purpose of collecting solar energy and generating electricity by photovoltaic effect that are located on adjoining parcels. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit tax liability or the definitions in subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 60. Subdivision (57) of section 12-81 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(57) (A) (i) Any Class I renewable energy source, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, or hydropower facility described in subdivision (21) of subsection (a) of section 16-1, installed for the generation of electricity where such electricity is intended for private residential use or on a farm, as defined in subsection (q) of section 1-1, provided (I) such installation occurs on or after October 1, 2007, (II) the estimated annual production of such source or facility does not exceed the estimated annual load for the location where such source or facility is located, where such load and production are estimated as of the date of installation of the source or facility as indicated in the written application filed pursuant to subparagraph [(E)] (G) of this subdivision, and (III) such installation is for a single family dwelling, a multifamily dwelling consisting of two to four units or a farm; (ii) any passive or active solar water or space heating system; or (iii) any geothermal energy resource. In the case of clause (i) of this subparagraph, the utilization of or participation in any net metering or tariff policy or program implemented by the state or ownership of such source or facility by a party other than the owner of the real property upon which such source or facility is installed shall not disqualify such source or facility from exemption pursuant to this section. In the case of clause (ii) or (iii) of this subparagraph, such exemption shall apply only to the amount by which the assessed valuation of the real property equipped

4286 with such system or resource exceeds the assessed valuation of such real
4287 property equipped with the conventional portion of the system or
4288 resource;

4289 (B) For assessment years commencing on and after October 1, 2013,
4290 any Class I renewable energy source, as defined in section 16-1, as
4291 amended by this act, hydropower facility described in subdivision (21)
4292 of subsection (a) of section 16-1, or solar thermal or geothermal
4293 renewable energy source, installed for generation or displacement of
4294 energy, provided (i) such installation occurs on or after January 1, 2010,
4295 (ii) such installation is for commercial or industrial purposes, (iii) the
4296 nameplate capacity of such source or facility does not exceed the load
4297 for the location where such generation or displacement is located, and
4298 (iv) such source or facility is located in a distressed municipality, as
4299 defined in section 32-9p, with a population between one hundred
4300 twenty-five thousand and one hundred thirty-five thousand;

4301 (C) For assessment years commencing on and after October 1, 2013,
4302 any municipality may, upon approval by its legislative body or in any
4303 town in which the legislative body is a town meeting, by the board of
4304 selectmen, abate up to one hundred per cent of property tax for any
4305 Class I renewable energy source, as defined in section 16-1, as amended
4306 by this act, hydropower facility described in subdivision (21) of
4307 subsection (a) of section 16-1, or solar thermal or geothermal renewable
4308 energy source, installed for generation or displacement of energy,
4309 provided (i) such installation occurs between January 1, 2010, and
4310 December 31, 2013, (ii) such installation is for commercial or industrial
4311 purposes, (iii) the nameplate capacity of such source or facility does not
4312 exceed the load for the location where such generation or displacement
4313 is located, and (iv) such source or facility is not located in a municipality
4314 described in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision;

4315 (D) [For] Subject to the provisions of subparagraph (E) of this
4316 subdivision, for assessment years commencing on and after October 1,
4317 2014, any (i) Class I renewable energy source, as defined in section 16-1,
4318 as amended by this act, other than a nuclear power generating facility,

4319 (ii) hydropower facility described in subdivision (21) of subsection (a)
4320 of section 16-1, or (iii) solar thermal or geothermal renewable energy
4321 source, installed for generation or displacement of energy, provided (I)
4322 such installation occurs on or after January 1, 2014, (II) is for commercial
4323 or industrial purposes, (III) the nameplate capacity of such source or
4324 facility does not exceed the load for the location where such generation
4325 or displacement is located or the aggregated load of the beneficial
4326 accounts for any Class I renewable energy source participating in virtual
4327 net metering pursuant to section 16-244u, and (IV) in the case of clause
4328 (iii) of this subparagraph, such exemption shall apply only to the
4329 amount by which the assessed valuation of the real property equipped
4330 with such source exceeds the assessed valuation of such real property
4331 equipped with the conventional portion of the source;

4332 (E) For assessment years commencing on and after October 1, 2025,
4333 the exemption provided for under subparagraph (D)(i) of this
4334 subdivision shall apply only to equipment and devices that have the
4335 primary purpose of generating electricity and shall not apply to any real
4336 property on which such equipment and devices are located or installed;

4337 (F) For assessment years commencing on and after October 1, 2025,
4338 any Class I renewable energy source consisting of equipment and
4339 devices that have the primary purpose of collecting solar energy and
4340 generating electricity by photovoltaic effect. The exemption under this
4341 subparagraph shall apply only to equipment and devices that have the
4342 primary purpose of generating electricity and shall not apply to any real
4343 property on which such equipment and devices are located or installed;

4344 ~~[(E)]~~ (G) Any person claiming [the] an exemption provided in this
4345 subdivision for any assessment year shall, on or before the first day of
4346 November in such assessment year, file with the assessor or board of
4347 assessors in the town in which such hydropower facility, Class I
4348 renewable energy source, solar thermal or geothermal renewable
4349 energy source or passive or active solar water or space heating system
4350 or geothermal energy resource is located, a written application claiming
4351 such exemption. Such application shall be made on a form prepared for

4352 such purpose by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management,
4353 in consultation with the Connecticut Association of Assessing Officers
4354 and the Connecticut Green Bank established pursuant to section 16-
4355 245n, and shall include, but not be limited to, a statement of the
4356 estimated annual load and production of a source or facility described
4357 in clause (i) of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision as of the date of the
4358 installation of such source or facility. Said secretary shall make such
4359 application available to the public on the Internet web site of the Office
4360 of Policy and Management. Failure to file such application in the
4361 manner and form as provided by the secretary within the time limit
4362 prescribed shall constitute a waiver of the right to such exemption for
4363 such assessment year. Such application shall not be required for any
4364 assessment year following that for which the initial application is filed,
4365 provided if such hydropower facility, Class I renewable energy source,
4366 solar thermal or geothermal renewable energy source or passive or
4367 active solar water or space heating system or geothermal energy
4368 resource is altered in a manner [which] that would require a building
4369 permit, such alteration shall be deemed a waiver of the right to such
4370 exemption until a new application, applicable with respect to such
4371 altered source, is filed and the right to such exemption is established as
4372 required initially. [In the event that] If a person owns more than one
4373 such source or facility in a municipality, such person may file a single
4374 application identifying each source or facility;

4375 [(F)] (H) For assessment years commencing on and after October 1,
4376 2015, any municipality may, by vote of its legislative body or, in a
4377 municipality where the legislative body is a town meeting, by vote of
4378 the board of selectmen, abate up to one hundred per cent of the property
4379 taxes due for any tax year, for not longer than the term of the power
4380 purchase agreement, with respect to any Class I renewable energy
4381 source, as defined in section 16-1, as amended by this act, that is the
4382 subject of such power purchase agreement approved by the Public
4383 Utilities Regulatory Authority pursuant to section 16a-3f;

4384 Sec. 61. Section 7 of public act 24-38 is repealed and the following is

4385 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4386 (a) There is established a task force to examine and make
4387 recommendations concerning policy, regulations and legislation to
4388 improve disclosure requirements and consumer protection for
4389 consumers who purchase, lease or enter into power purchase
4390 agreements for solar photovoltaic systems. Such study shall include an
4391 examination of whether special protections are necessary for consumers
4392 who are low-income or senior citizens.

4393 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

4394 (1) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, or
4395 the commissioner's designee;

4396 (2) The chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, or
4397 the chairperson's designee;

4398 (3) The Consumer Counsel, or the Consumer Counsel's designee;

4399 (4) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection, or the commissioner's
4400 designee;

4401 (5) The president of the Connecticut Green Bank, or the president's
4402 designee;

4403 (6) Two appointed by the Governor, who shall be members of an
4404 association that represents retailers of solar photovoltaic systems in the
4405 state or retailers of solar photovoltaic systems in the state;

4406 (7) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
4407 one of whom shall have experience representing [senior citizens in
4408 matters related to consumer protection or utilities] individuals in
4409 matters related to consumer protection;

4410 (8) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of
4411 whom shall have experience representing consumer groups, especially
4412 in underserved communities;

4413 (9) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
4414 Representatives;

4415 (10) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

4416 (11) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of
4417 Representatives; and

4418 (12) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate.

4419 (c) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later
4420 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall
4421 be filled by the appointing authority.

4422 (d) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
4423 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairperson of the task force
4424 from among the members of the task force. Such chairperson shall
4425 schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later
4426 than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

4427 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
4428 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy and
4429 technology shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

4430 (f) Not later than January 1, [2025] 2026, the task force shall submit a
4431 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
4432 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
4433 relating to energy and technology and general law, in accordance with
4434 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force
4435 shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1,
4436 [2025] 2026, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-244dd

Sec. 4	<i>April 15, 2026</i>	16-262c(b)
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-262d
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	PA 24-31, Sec. 2
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-244z
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-245e
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-245f(a)
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-245g
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-245h(a)
Sec. 15	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-245i
Sec. 16	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-245j(b) and (c)
Sec. 17	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-245k(l)
Sec. 18	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-19gg(b)
Sec. 19	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 20	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 21	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-19f(a) and (b)
Sec. 22	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16-243n
Sec. 23	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 24	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-32e
Sec. 25	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-32l
Sec. 26	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-32m
Sec. 27	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 28	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 29	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-18a(c)
Sec. 30	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 31	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 32	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3m(e)
Sec. 33	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-244m
Sec. 34	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 35	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	22a-136
Sec. 36	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 37	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-102(a)
Sec. 38	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-1(a)(20)
Sec. 39	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-245a
Sec. 40	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3g
Sec. 41	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3h
Sec. 42	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3i(d)
Sec. 43	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3n(c)

Sec. 44	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3p(c)
Sec. 45	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3a(j)
Sec. 46	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	16a-3u
Sec. 47	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 48	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-245m(d)(1)
Sec. 49	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3j(i)
Sec. 50	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16a-3n(a)(3)
Sec. 51	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-2
Sec. 52	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-2a
Sec. 53	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-19b(d)
Sec. 54	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-8c(c)
Sec. 55	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-6b
Sec. 56	<i>from passage</i>	16-19(b)
Sec. 57	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	16-243ee(a)
Sec. 58	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 59	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 60	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	12-81(57)
Sec. 61	<i>from passage</i>	PA 24-38, Sec. 7