



General Assembly

**Amendment**

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 5892



Offered by:

SEN. HARDING, 30<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. MARTIN, 31<sup>st</sup> Dist.  
SEN. SAMPSON, 16<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. CICARELLA, 34<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. SOMERS, 18<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. HWANG, 28<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. BERTHEL, 32<sup>nd</sup> Dist.  
SEN. FAZIO, 36<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. GORDON, 35<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. PERILLO J., 21<sup>st</sup> Dist.

To: House Bill No. 5340

File No. 385

Cal. No. 528

(As Amended by House Schedule "A")

**"AN ACT CONCERNING RENEWABLE POWER GENERATION."**

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and  
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) For purposes of this  
4 section, "combined public benefits charge" means the systems benefit  
5 charge pursuant to section 16-245l of the general statutes, as amended  
6 by this act, the assessment for the Energy Conservation and Load  
7 Management Fund pursuant to section 16-245m of the general statutes,  
8 as amended by this act, the assessment for the Clean Energy Fund  
9 pursuant to section 16-245n of the general statutes, as amended by this  
10 act, and the federally mandated congestion charges, as defined in  
11 section 16-1 of the general statutes.

12 (b) Not later than forty-five days after the convening of the 2028  
13 session of the General Assembly, and biennially thereafter, the joint  
14 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
15 matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies,  
16 energy and the environment shall conduct a public hearing concerning  
17 the combined public benefits charge. Not later than forty-five days after  
18 completion of such public hearing, the joint standing committee of the  
19 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
20 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies shall submit a plan  
21 concerning the continuation or discontinuation of, and funding for, any  
22 component of the combined public benefits charge, along with the  
23 committee's recommendation for approval or disapproval to the  
24 General Assembly. The plan shall become effective when adopted by  
25 the General Assembly as the plan of funding for the combined public  
26 benefits charge.

27 (c) On and after July 1, 2028, the combined public benefits charge  
28 shall be paid by the Treasurer from the General Fund on an annual basis  
29 according to the plan of funding for the combined public benefits charge  
30 adopted pursuant to subdivision (b) of this section.

31 Sec. 502. Subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 16-245d of the  
32 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
33 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

34 (3) Not later than [August 1, 2023] July 1, 2028, each electric  
35 distribution company shall use a total of [four] three categories as part  
36 of the standard billing format for all residential customers, one of which  
37 shall relate to charges for generation of electricity, one of which shall  
38 relate to charges for local distribution of electricity, and one of which  
39 shall relate to charges for transmission of electricity. [, and one of which  
40 shall relate to system benefits and the subset of federally mandated  
41 congesting charges approved by the authority pursuant to any  
42 provision of the general statutes, public act or special act.] The authority  
43 shall require that each electric distribution company's standard billing  
44 format for residential customers identify each charge and the

45 corresponding category in accordance with the authority's  
46 determinations. The authority, in a docket reopened pursuant to  
47 subdivision (2) of this subsection, may modify the categories described  
48 in this subdivision if the authority finds that such modification  
49 improves customer understanding of the components of the electric bill  
50 or customer understanding of what costs are causing increases to the  
51 total amount of a customer's bill.

52 Sec. 503. Section 16-245l of the general statutes is repealed and the  
53 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2028*):

54 (a) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall establish [and each  
55 electric distribution company shall collect] a systems benefits charge, [to  
56 be imposed against all end use customers of each electric distribution  
57 company beginning January 1, 2000] which shall be paid on an annual  
58 basis by the Treasurer from the General Fund subject to the provisions  
59 of section 501 of this act. The authority shall hold a hearing that shall be  
60 conducted as a contested case in accordance with chapter 54 to establish  
61 the amount of the systems benefits charge. The authority may revise the  
62 systems benefits charge or any element of said charge as the need arises.

63 (b) Commencing on July 1, 2015, and annually thereafter, the sum of  
64 two million one hundred thousand dollars shall be transferred from the  
65 systems benefits charge to Operation Fuel, Incorporated, for energy  
66 assistance, provided two hundred thousand dollars of such sum may be  
67 used for administrative purposes. The systems benefits charge shall also  
68 be used to fund (1) the expenses of the public education outreach  
69 program developed under section 16-244d other than expenses for  
70 authority staff, (2) the cost of hardship protection measures under  
71 sections 16-262c and 16-262d and other hardship protections, including,  
72 but not limited to, electric service bill payment programs, funding and  
73 technical support for energy assistance, fuel bank and weatherization  
74 programs and weatherization services, (3) the payment program to  
75 offset tax losses described in section 12-94d, (4) any sums paid to a  
76 resource recovery authority pursuant to subsection (b) of section 16-  
77 243e, (5) low income conservation programs approved by the Public

78 Utilities Regulatory Authority, (6) displaced worker protection costs, (7)  
79 unfunded storage and disposal costs for spent nuclear fuel generated  
80 before January 1, 2000, approved by the appropriate regulatory  
81 agencies, (8) postretirement safe shutdown and site protection costs that  
82 are incurred in preparation for decommissioning, (9) decommissioning  
83 fund contributions, (10) costs associated with the Connecticut electric  
84 efficiency partner program established pursuant to section 16-243v, (11)  
85 reinvestments and investments in energy efficiency programs and  
86 technologies pursuant to section 16a-38l, costs associated with the  
87 electricity conservation incentive program established pursuant to  
88 section 119 of public act 07-242, (12) legal, appraisal and purchase costs  
89 of a conservation or land use restriction and other related costs as the  
90 authority in its discretion deems appropriate, incurred by a  
91 municipality on or before January 1, 2000, to ensure the environmental,  
92 recreational and scenic preservation of any reservoir located within this  
93 state created by a pump storage hydroelectric generating facility, and  
94 (13) the residential furnace and boiler replacement program pursuant to  
95 subsection (k) of section 16-243v.

96 (c) As used in this subsection, "displaced worker protection costs"  
97 means the reasonable costs incurred, prior to January 1, 2008, [(A)] (1)  
98 by an electric supplier, exempt wholesale generator, electric company,  
99 an operator of a nuclear power generating facility in this state or a  
100 generation entity or affiliate arising from the dislocation of any  
101 employee other than an officer, provided such dislocation is a result of  
102 [(i)] (A) restructuring of the electric generation market and such  
103 dislocation occurs on or after July 1, 1998, or [(ii)] (B) the closing of a  
104 Title IV source or an exempt wholesale generator, as defined in 15 USC  
105 79z-5a, on or after January 1, 2004, as a result of such source's failure to  
106 meet requirements imposed as a result of sections 22a-197 and 22a-198  
107 and this section or those Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies  
108 adopted by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, as  
109 amended from time to time, in accordance with Executive Order  
110 Number 19, issued on May 17, 2000, and provided further such costs  
111 result from either the execution of agreements reached through

112 collective bargaining for union employees or from the company's or  
113 entity's or affiliate's programs and policies for nonunion employees, and  
114 [(B)] (2) by an electric distribution company or an exempt wholesale  
115 generator arising from the retraining of a former employee of an  
116 unaffiliated exempt wholesale generator, which employee was  
117 involuntarily dislocated on or after January 1, 2004, from such wholesale  
118 generator, except for cause. "Displaced worker protection costs"  
119 includes costs incurred or projected for severance, retraining, early  
120 retirement, outplacement, coverage for surviving spouse insurance  
121 benefits and related expenses.

122 [(b) The amount of the systems benefits charge shall be determined  
123 by the authority in a general and equitable manner and shall be imposed  
124 on all end use customers of each electric distribution company at a rate  
125 that is applied equally to all customers of the same class in accordance  
126 with methods of allocation in effect on July 1, 1998, provided the system  
127 benefits charge shall not be imposed on customers receiving services  
128 under a special contract which is in effect on July 1, 1998, until such  
129 special contracts expire. The system benefits charge shall be imposed  
130 beginning on January 1, 2000, on all customers receiving services under  
131 a special contract which are entered into or renewed after July 1, 1998.  
132 The systems benefits charge shall have a generally applicable manner of  
133 determination that may be measured on the basis of percentages of total  
134 costs of retail sales of generation services. The systems benefits charge  
135 shall be payable on an equal basis on the same payment terms and shall  
136 be eligible or subject to prepayment on an equal basis. Any exemption  
137 of the systems benefits charge by customers under a special contract  
138 shall not result in an increase in rates to any customer.]

139 Sec. 504. Subparagraph (E) of subdivision (3) of subsection (e) of  
140 section 16a-3m of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed  
141 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2028*):

142 (E) [(i)] The remaining costs of any such agreement, including costs  
143 incurred by the electric distribution company under the agreement and  
144 reasonable costs incurred by the electric distribution company in

145 connection with the agreement, net of all revenues from any sale of  
146 energy, capacity or other products purchased under such agreement,  
147 including, but not limited to, any revenues recovered pursuant to  
148 subparagraph (D) of this subdivision, shall be [recovered on a timely  
149 basis through a nonbypassable fully reconciling component of electric  
150 rates for all customers of the electric distribution company, and (ii) any]  
151 paid by the Treasurer on an annual basis from the General Fund subject  
152 to the provisions of section 501 of this act. Any net revenues from the  
153 sale of products purchased in accordance with long-term contracts  
154 entered into pursuant to this subsection, or pursuant to any other  
155 provision of the general statutes, that are not associated with the  
156 provision of standard service, shall be [credited to customers through  
157 the same nonbypassable fully reconciling rate component for all  
158 customers of the contracting electric distribution company] paid to the  
159 Treasurer for deposit in the General Fund.

160 Sec. 505. Subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 16-245m of the  
161 2026 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is  
162 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2028*):

163 (d) (1) Not later than November 1, 2012, and every three years  
164 thereafter, electric distribution companies, as defined in section 16-1, in  
165 coordination with the gas companies, as defined in section 16-1, shall  
166 submit to the Energy Conservation Management Board a combined  
167 electric and gas Conservation and Load Management Plan, in  
168 accordance with the provisions of this section, to implement cost-  
169 effective energy conservation programs, demand management and  
170 market transformation initiatives. All supply and conservation and load  
171 management options shall be evaluated and selected within an  
172 integrated supply and demand planning framework. Services provided  
173 under the plan shall be available to all customers of electric distribution  
174 companies and gas companies, provided a customer of an electric  
175 distribution company may not be denied such services based on the fuel  
176 such customer uses to heat such customer's home. The Energy  
177 Conservation Management Board shall advise and assist the electric

178 distribution companies and gas companies in the development of such  
179 plan. The Energy Conservation Management Board shall approve the  
180 plan before transmitting it to the Commissioner of Energy and  
181 Environmental Protection for approval. The commissioner shall, in an  
182 uncontested proceeding during which the commissioner may hold a  
183 public meeting, approve, modify or reject said plan prepared pursuant  
184 to this subsection. Following approval by the commissioner, the board  
185 shall assist the companies in implementing the plan and collaborate  
186 with the Connecticut Green Bank to further the goals of the plan. Said  
187 plan shall include a detailed budget sufficient to fund all energy  
188 efficiency that is cost-effective or lower cost than acquisition of  
189 equivalent supply, and shall be reviewed and approved by the  
190 commissioner. [The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall, not later  
191 than sixty days after the plan is approved by the commissioner, ensure  
192 that the balance of revenues required to fund such plan is provided  
193 through fully reconciling conservation adjustment mechanisms. Electric  
194 distribution companies shall collect a conservation adjustment  
195 mechanism that ensures the plan is fully funded by collecting an  
196 amount that is not more than the sum of six mills per kilowatt hour of  
197 electricity sold to each end use customer of an electric distribution  
198 company during the three years of any Conservation and Load  
199 Management Plan. The authority shall ensure that the revenues  
200 required to fund such plan with regard to gas companies are provided  
201 through a fully reconciling conservation adjustment mechanism for  
202 each gas company of not more than the equivalent of four and six-tenth  
203 cents per hundred cubic feet during the three years of any Conservation  
204 and Load Management Plan, provided such companies may exceed the  
205 equivalent of four and six-tenth cents per hundred cubic feet to fund the  
206 net costs of any agreement approved pursuant to section 45 of public act  
207 25-173] The funding for such plan shall be paid on an annual basis by  
208 the Treasurer from the General Fund subject to the provisions of section  
209 501 of this act. Said plan shall include steps that would be needed to  
210 achieve the goal of weatherization of eighty per cent of the state's  
211 residential units by 2030, and steps to reduce energy consumption by  
212 1.6 million MMBtu, or the equivalent megawatts of electricity, as

213 defined in subdivision (4) of section 22a-197, annually each year for  
 214 calendar years commencing on and after January 1, 2020, up to and  
 215 including calendar year 2025. Each program contained in the plan shall  
 216 be reviewed by such companies and accepted, modified or rejected by  
 217 the Energy Conservation Management Board prior to submission to the  
 218 commissioner for approval. The Energy Conservation Management  
 219 Board shall, as part of its review, examine opportunities to offer joint  
 220 programs providing similar efficiency measures that save more than  
 221 one fuel resource or otherwise to coordinate programs targeted at  
 222 saving more than one fuel resource. Any costs for joint programs shall  
 223 be allocated equitably among the conservation programs. The Energy  
 224 Conservation Management Board shall give preference to projects that  
 225 maximize the reduction of federally mandated congestion charges.

226 Sec. 506. Subsection (b) of section 16-245n of the general statutes is  
 227 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
 228 *2028*):

229 (b) On and after July 1, 2004, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority  
 230 shall assess or cause to be assessed a charge of not less than one mill per  
 231 kilowatt hour charged to each end use customer of electric services in  
 232 this state which shall be deposited into the Clean Energy Fund  
 233 established under subsection (c) of this section, which shall be paid on  
 234 an annual basis by the Treasurer from the General Fund subject to the  
 235 provisions of section 501 of this act."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 501	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 502	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	16-245d(a)(3)
Sec. 503	<i>July 1, 2028</i>	16-245l
Sec. 504	<i>July 1, 2028</i>	16a-3m(e)(3)(E)
Sec. 505	<i>July 1, 2028</i>	16-245m(d)(1)
Sec. 506	<i>July 1, 2028</i>	16-245n(b)