

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 1054

2 AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

3 (Proposed by the House Committee on Commerce and Energy

4 on _____)

5 (Patron Prior to Substitute--Delegate Shin)

6 A BILL to direct the State Corporation Commission and the Department of Energy to convene a work
7 group; utility disconnections; public health emergencies; weather extremes.

8 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

9 1. § 1. That the State Corporation Commission (the Commission) and the Department of Energy shall
10 convene a work group to collect feedback on utility disconnection procedures during public health
11 emergencies and weather extremes, including temperature extremes and extreme weather events. The
12 work group shall consist of interested stakeholders, including representatives of electric utilities, water
13 and wastewater utilities, natural gas utilities, consumer advocacy groups, environmental organizations,
14 and the Department of Social Services. The work group shall also include two members of the House
15 Committee on Commerce and Energy who are not members of the same political party and two members
16 of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor who are not members of the same political party. The
17 work group shall develop recommendations on how best to protect utility customers from disconnection
18 of service during public health emergencies and weather extremes and in doing so shall review current
19 disconnection and reconnection procedures, including notice requirements and the use of late charges and
20 fees. The Commission, the Department of Energy, and the work group shall work together to create a
21 report summarizing the recommendations of the work group and (i) submit the report to the Chairmen of
22 the House Committee on Commerce and Energy and the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor no
23 later than November 1, 2022, and (ii) post the report on the Commission's website no later than November
24 1, 2022.

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