

HOUSE BILL 121

IN THE HOUSE

January 11, 1979

Introduced and referred to
Committee on Business and
Industry.

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 121
 2 INTRODUCED BY VINCENT Mussouri Metally McKee
 3 Henneman

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE PUBLIC
 5 SERVICE COMMISSION FROM APPROVING STANDBY CHARGES FOR
 6 CUSTOMERS WHO USE FORMS OF RENEWABLE ENERGY OTHER THAN THOSE
 7 PROVIDED BY REGULATED UTILITIES; REQUIRING UTILITIES TO
 8 PROVIDE STANDBY SERVICE AT REGULAR RATES TO ALL CONSUMERS
 9 WHO REQUEST IT; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

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 11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

12 Section 1. Definitions. As used in [this act], the
 13 following definitions apply:

14 (1) "Standby charge" means a charge, different than
 15 those charges generally authorized for service under a
 16 utility's tariffs, imposed when:

17 (a) utility service is provided only when any other
 18 form or source of energy from any supply which is
 19 predominantly relied upon by the utility customer is not
 20 available to that customer; or

21 (b) utility service is provided on a regular basis as
 22 the customer's predominate energy source but is subject to
 23 periodic partial or complete curtailment, at the customer's
 24 option, and replacement by another form or source of energy.

25 (2) "Standby service" means utility service provided

1 as an alternative or backup form or source of energy to the
 2 form or source of renewable energy predominantly relied upon
 3 by a customer.

4 Section 2. Approval of standby charges prohibited. The
 5 public service commission may not approve standby charges
 6 that penalize customers who use forms of renewable energy
 7 from sources other than those provided by regulated
 8 utilities.

9 Section 3. Utilities to provide standby service upon
 10 request. Unless specifically required by order of a federal
 11 regulatory agency, no utility may refuse service to a
 12 requesting customer solely on the grounds that the request
 13 is for standby service.

14 Section 4. Application — industrial customers
 15 exempted. The provisions of [this act] apply to all requests
 16 for standby charges and standby service for residential and
 17 commercial classes of customers but do not apply to requests
 18 for standby charges and standby service for industrial
 19 customers.

20 Section 5. Effective date. This act is effective on
 21 passage and approval.

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