

2012 -- H 7795

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LC01987
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS

Introduced By: Representatives Gallison, Malik, DaSilva, Azzinaro, and Guthrie

Date Introduced: February 28, 2012

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 39-3-8 of the General Laws in Chapter 39-3 entitled "Regulatory
2 Powers of Administration" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **39-3-8. Standards for measurement and testing of service.** – (a) The division shall
4 ascertain and fix adequate and serviceable standards for the measurement of the quality, pressure,
5 initial voltage, or other condition pertaining to the supply of the product or service rendered by
6 any public utility, and prescribe reasonable regulations for the examination and testing of the
7 product or service and for the measurement thereof. It shall establish reasonable rules,
8 regulations, specifications, and standards to secure accuracy of all meters and appliances for
9 measurement, and every public utility is required to carry into effect all orders issued by the
10 division relative thereto.

11 (b) A transmission and distribution utility may not install a wireless smart meter unless
12 approved by the commission. Upon petition by a transmission and distribution utility, the
13 commission shall open a proceeding to establish the terms and conditions under which the utility
14 may install wireless smart meters. The terms and conditions must include, but are not limited to,
15 provisions allowing a customer, at no cost to that customer:

16 (1) To decline the installation of the wireless smart meter; or

17 (2) To have a wired smart meter installed as an alternative to the wireless smart meter.

18 (c) Definitions, as used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the
19 following terms have the following meanings:

1 (1) “Wired smart meter” means an advanced metering infrastructure device using a fixed
2 wire for 2-way communication between the device and a transmission and distribution utility.

3 (2) “Wireless smart meter” means an advanced metering infrastructure device using radio
4 or other wireless means for 2-way communication between the device and a transmission and
5 distribution utility.

6 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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- 1 This act would allow consumers the right to decline the installation of a wireless electric
- 2 meter and substitute a wired smart meter.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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