

2016 -- S 2654

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LC003090  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

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A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS - COMMERCIAL BILLING

Introduced By: Senators Raptakis, Conley, Metts, Lombardo, and Jabour

Date Introduced: February 25, 2016

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 39-2 of the General Laws entitled "Duties of Utilities and Carriers"

2 is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **39-2-1.5. Commercial security deposits limited.** – (a) No commercial customer who  
4 has continuously received utility services for more than one year shall be required to maintain a  
5 security deposit account to insure payment of their utility bills. Any security deposit funds held  
6 for those commercial customers that can no longer be required to maintain them, shall be  
7 immediately returned to them.

8 (b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any electric distribution company  
9 having fewer than seven thousand five hundred (7,500) electricity customer accounts.

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS - COMMERCIAL BILLING

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- 1           This act prohibits electric distribution companies from requiring security deposit accounts
- 2   from commercial customers who have maintained such accounts for more than one year.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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