

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to public utilities; amending s.  
 3           366.05, F.S.; requiring a proposed change in a public  
 4           utility's billing cycle to be approved by the Florida  
 5           Public Service Commission by a specified period before  
 6           its effective date; requiring the commission to  
 7           consider the public impact of a proposed change;  
 8           prohibiting the extension of a billing cycle by more  
 9           than a specified period; prohibiting a utility from  
 10          charging a consumer or user a higher rate due to an  
 11          extension; providing an exception; providing an  
 12          effective date.

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 14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 16           Section 1. Subsection (12) is added to section 366.05,  
 17 Florida Statutes, to read:

18           366.05 Powers.—

19           (12) A proposed change in a public utility's billing cycle  
 20 must be approved by the commission at least 1 month before the  
 21 change becomes effective. In reviewing a proposed change, the  
 22 commission shall consider the public impact of the proposal. The  
 23 commission may not approve more than a 7-day extension of a  
 24 billing cycle, and the extension may not cause a consumer or  
 25 user to be charged a higher rate due to the increased energy  
 26 usage. This subsection does not apply to a change in a billing

HB 81

2015

27 | cycle that is necessitated by a state of emergency declared by  
28 | the Governor.

29 |       Section 2.   This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.