

# HOUSE BILL No. 111

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 8-1-2.

**Synopsis:** Various utility matters. Prohibits a utility from charging a customer a reconnection fee to restore terminated service to the customer. Provides that an electric or gas utility may not terminate residential electric or gas service between June 21 and September 23 for residential customers whose residence includes a person who is: (1) 65 years of age or older; or (2) 16 years of age or younger. Requires an electric or gas utility to identify new residential customers who are 62 years of age or older and to provide the identified customers with information concerning relevant assistance programs for seniors. Requires a public utility to provide a residential customer with a bill credit for an electric service interruption.

**Effective:** July 1, 2026.

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January 5, 2026, read first time and referred to Committee on Utilities, Energy and Telecommunications.

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Introduced

Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## HOUSE BILL No. 111

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A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning utilities.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1        SECTION 1. IC 8-1-2-4.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
2        AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
3        1, 2026]: Sec. 4.5. (a) As used in this section, "utility" means a  
4        person, however organized, that provides retail electric, natural  
5        gas, water, or wastewater service in Indiana to the public for  
6        compensation, including the following:

7                (1) A public utility (as defined in section 1(a) of this chapter).  
8                (2) A municipally owned utility (as defined in section 1(h) of  
9                this chapter).  
10               (3) A not-for-profit utility (as defined in section 125(a) of this  
11               chapter).  
12               (4) A utility owned, operated, or held in trust by a  
13               consolidated city.  
14               (5) A cooperatively owned corporation.  
15               (6) A regional district established under IC 13-26 that  
16               provides water service, wastewater service, or both water  
17               service and wastewater service.



(7) A conservancy district established under IC 14-33 that provides water service, wastewater service, or both water service and wastewater service.

**(b) A utility may not charge a customer a reconnection fee to restore terminated service to the customer.**

(c) The commission shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this section.

SECTION 2. IC 8-1-2-121, AS AMENDED BY P.L.181-2006, SECTION 48, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 121. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, from December 1 through March 15 **and from June 21 through September 23** of any year, ~~no~~ **an** electric or gas utility, including a municipally owned, privately owned, or cooperatively owned utility, ~~shall~~ **may not** terminate residential electric or gas service for:

**(1)** persons who are eligible for and have applied for assistance from a ~~heating~~ **home energy** assistance program administered under IC 4-4-33; or

**(2) residential customers whose residence includes a person who is:**

**(A) sixty-five (65) years of age or older; or**

**(B) sixteen (16) years of age or younger.**

The commission shall implement procedures to ensure that electric or gas utility service is continued while eligibility for such persons **and customers** is being determined.

(b) Any electric or gas utility, including a municipally owned, privately owned, or cooperatively owned utility, shall provide any residential customer whose account is delinquent an opportunity to enter into a reasonable amortization agreement with such company to pay the delinquent account. Such an amortization agreement must provide the customer with adequate opportunity to apply for and receive the benefits of any available public assistance program. An amortization agreement is subject to amendment on the customer's request if there is a change in the customer's financial circumstances.

(c) The commission may establish a reasonable rate of interest which a utility may charge on the unpaid balance of a customer's delinquent bill that may not exceed the rate established by the commission under section 34.5 of this chapter.

(d) The commission shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to carry out the provisions of this section.

(e) This section does not prohibit an electric or gas utility from terminating residential utility service upon a request of a customer or under the following circumstances:



- 1 (1) If a condition dangerous or hazardous to life, physical safety,  
2 or property exists.
- 3 (2) Upon order by any court, the commission, or other duly  
4 authorized public authority.
- 5 (3) If fraudulent or unauthorized use of electricity or gas is  
6 detected and the utility has reasonable grounds to believe the  
7 affected customer is responsible for such use.
- 8 (4) If the utility's regulating or measuring equipment has been  
9 tampered with and the utility has reasonable grounds to believe  
10 that the affected customer is responsible for such tampering.

11 SECTION 3. IC 8-1-2-123 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
12 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
13 1, 2026]: **Sec. 123. An electric or gas utility, including a municipally**  
14 **owned, privately owned, or cooperatively owned electric or gas**  
15 **utility, shall:**

16 (1) perform a monthly review of all new customer accounts to  
17 identify residential customers who are sixty-two (62) years of  
18 age or older; and  
19 (2) not later than April 1 and October 1 of each year, send to  
20 residential customers identified under subdivision (1), by  
21 regular mail, information concerning relevant assistance  
22 programs for the elderly, including:  
23 (A) energy assistance programs;  
24 (B) shut off protection programs; and  
25 (C) in person assistance programs.

26 SECTION 4. IC 8-1-2-129 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
27 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
28 1, 2026]: **Sec. 129. (a) If a residential customer's electric service is**  
29 **interrupted during a billing cycle, a public utility shall provide the**  
30 **residential customer a bill credit for the service interruption, as**  
31 **calculated under subsection (b), on the residential customer's first**  
32 **monthly bill after the interruption has concluded.**



- hours after the start of the service interruption;
- (D) twelve dollars (\$12) for every full hour of the service interruption at least twelve (12) hours but less than twenty-four (24) hours after the start of the service interruption;
- (E) fifteen dollars (\$15) for every full hour of the service interruption at least twenty-four (24) hours but less than forty-eight (48) hours after the start of the service interruption;
- (F) eighteen dollars (\$18) for every full hour of the service interruption at least forty-eight (48) hours but less than seventy-two (72) hours after the start of the service interruption; and
- (G) twenty-five dollars (\$25) for every full hour of the service interruption seventy-two (72) hours or more after the start of the service interruption; plus

(2) either:

- (A) one hundred dollars (\$100) for the service interruption if four (4) interruptions lasting a full hour or more have occurred in the preceding twelve (12) month period; or
- (B) two hundred dollars (\$200) for the service interruption if five (5) or more interruptions lasting a full hour or more have occurred in the preceding twelve (12) month period.

(c) Any bill credits that are:

- (1) applicable under this section; and
- (2) in excess of the residential customer's first monthly bill after the interruption has concluded;

(1) applicable under this section; and  
(2) in excess of the residential customer's first monthly bill after the interruption has concluded; shall be carried over to subsequent bills until the total credit has been satisfied.

