



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

***Raised Bill No. 289***

LCO No. 2088



Referred to Committee on ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by:

(ET)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION BY MUNICIPAL COOPERATIVES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 7-221 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2020*):

3 (a) The books and accounts pertaining to the business authorized by  
4 this chapter shall be kept in a form to be prescribed by the board of  
5 commissioners, and the accounts shall be closed on the last day of July  
6 in each year, so that a balance sheet of that date can be taken therefrom  
7 and included in the report of such board, as provided in section 7-216,  
8 which report shall further contain an account of the financial condition  
9 of such business, the amount of indebtedness authorized or existing on  
10 account thereof and a list of the salaried officers employed therein and  
11 the amount of salary paid to each, and shall be accompanied with a  
12 statement, to be signed and sworn to by the clerk and superintendent  
13 mentioned in section 7-216, of the income and expenses of such  
14 business, in such detail as the board of commissioners requires. The  
15 selectmen of a town, the mayor of a city or the warden and burgesses of

16 a borough may direct any additional returns to be made by the board of  
17 commissioners or by the superintendent and clerk at such times and in  
18 such detail as they order.

19 (b) Except for information exempt from disclosure pursuant to  
20 section 7-232a, such books and accounts described in subsection (a) of  
21 this section shall be subject to the Freedom of Information Act, as  
22 defined in section 1-200.

23 Sec. 2. Section 7-233l of the general statutes is repealed and the  
24 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2020*):

25 (a) A municipal cooperative is hereby authorized to fix, establish,  
26 maintain and collect, or to authorize, by contract, franchise, lease or  
27 otherwise, the establishment, levying and collection of, such rates, fees,  
28 rental or other charges, including connection charges, for the services  
29 afforded by the municipal cooperative or by or in connection with any  
30 properties which it may construct, erect, acquire, own, operate or  
31 control, and for the sale of electric energy or transmission capacity or  
32 service as it may deem necessary, proper, desirable and reasonable,  
33 which said rates, fees, rentals or other charges shall be fixed and  
34 established by the municipal cooperative in the manner prescribed in  
35 the following section hereof.

36 (b) A municipal cooperative shall provide substantiating  
37 documentation for fees, rentals or other charges established pursuant to  
38 subsection (a) of this section to any customer that requests the  
39 information to fully understand said fees, rentals or other charges. This  
40 information shall be provided within a reasonable time frame.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2020</i>	7-221
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2020</i>	7-233l

***Statement of Purpose:***

To (1) allow the public to examine the books and accounts of municipal cooperatives pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, and (2) require the municipal cooperative to provide documentation for fees, rentals or other charges.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*