

2014 -- H 7343

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LC004089  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

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A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS

Introduced By: Representatives Gallison, Lally, and Dickinson

Date Introduced: February 06, 2014

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

17           **(1) To decline the installation of all types of smart-meter technology; or**

18           **(2) To decline the installation of the wireless smart meter; or**

19           **(3) To have a wired smart meter installed as an alternative to the wireless smart meter.**

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

3           (1) "Wired smart meter" means an advanced metering infrastructure device using a fixed  
4 wire for 2-way communication between the device and an electric transmission company or  
5 distribution company.

6           (2) "Wireless smart meter" means an advanced metering infrastructure device using radio  
7 or other wireless means for 2-way communication between the device and an electric  
8 transmission company or distribution company.

9           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 smart  
2 meter and substitute a wired smart meter, and to completely decline the installation of any smart  
3 meter technology.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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