

2007 -- H 5562

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2007

A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS

Introduced By: Representatives Naughton, Lewiss, Slater, Handy, and Dennigan

Date Introduced: February 28, 2007

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 39-1.1 of the General Laws entitled "Termination of Service to
2 Persons Who Are Disabled and Seriously Ill" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following
3 section:

4 **39-1.1-2.1. Termination of service in residence where infant domiciled.** – No gas or
5 electric company shall terminate gas or electric service in any residence in which there is
6 domiciled a person under the age of twelve (12) months and the customer's service has not been
7 previously shut off for nonpayment before the birth of the child; provided, that the customer
8 cannot afford to pay any overdue bill because of financial hardship. The commission shall
9 promulgate such rules and regulations consistent with this section as it deems reasonable and
10 necessary to implement the provisions of this section. Said rules shall, as a minimum, require
11 certification of such infancy by birth certificate or other verifiable certification and that such
12 certification of infancy shall remain in effect without renewal until the infant reaches the age of
13 twelve (12) months.

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
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- 1 This act would prevent the shut off of gas or electric services in any residence where
- 2 there is a domiciled person under the age of twelve (12) months.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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