

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Public Utilities Act is amended by adding
5 Section 8-206.5 as follows:

6 (220 ILCS 5/8-206.5 new)

7 Sec. 8-206.5. Disconnection Protection Program.

8 (a) No later than June 1, 2025, each electric and gas
9 utility serving more than 500,000 customers in this State
10 shall implement a Disconnection Protection Program, whereby
11 customers who have applied for assistance through the Low
12 Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) or Percentage
13 of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) shall be temporarily protected
14 from disconnection for 30 days after the utility receives
15 notice from a local administrative agency that the customer
16 has submitted an application to LIHEAP or PIPP and, in cases
17 where LIHEAP or PIPP assistance is received, for another 45
18 days after receiving the notice. Any customer who applies for,
19 but does not receive, LIHEAP or PIPP assistance shall, by
20 operation of this Section, only be temporarily protected from
21 disconnection once in any program year.

22 (b) Each electric and gas utility may recover costs for
23 implementation, administration, and ongoing operation of its

1 Disconnection Protection Program through the utility's revenue
2 requirement, subject to a review for prudence and
3 reasonableness by the Commission.