

1 AN ACT concerning criminal law.

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

4 Section 5. The Criminal Code of 1961 is amended by changing
5 Section 16-14 as follows:

6 (720 ILCS 5/16-14) (from Ch. 38, par. 16-14)

7 Sec. 16-14. (a) A person commits the offense of unlawful
8 interference with public utility services when he or she
9 knowingly, without the consent of the owner of the services,
10 impairs or interrupts any public water, gas or power supply,
11 telecommunications service, wireless service, or other public
12 services, or diverts, or causes to be diverted in whole or in
13 part, any public water, gas, or power supply,
14 telecommunications service, wireless service, or other public
15 services, or installs or removes any device for the purpose of
16 such diversion, or knowingly delays restoration of such public
17 services, as a result of the person's theft of wire used for
18 such services.

19 (b) The terms "public water, gas, or power supply, or other
20 public services ~~service~~" mean any service subject to regulation
21 by the Illinois Commerce Commission; any service furnished by a
22 public utility that is owned and operated by any political
23 subdivision, public institution of higher education or

1 municipal corporation of this State; any service furnished by
2 any public utility that is owned by such political subdivision,
3 public institution of higher education, or municipal
4 corporation and operated by any of its lessees or operating
5 agents; ~~and~~ any service furnished by an electric cooperative as
6 defined in Section 3.4 of the Electric Supplier Act; or
7 wireless service or other service regulated by the Federal
8 Communications Commission.

9 (c) Any instrument, apparatus, or device used in obtaining
10 utility services without paying the full charge therefore or
11 any meter that has been altered, tampered with, or bypassed so
12 as to cause a lack of measurement or inaccurate measurement of
13 utility services on premises controlled by the customer or by
14 the person using or receiving the direct benefit of utility
15 service at that location shall raise a rebuttable presumption
16 of the commission of the offense described in subparagraph (a)
17 by such person.

18 (d) (1) A person convicted of unlawful interference with
19 public utility services is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor
20 unless the offense was committed for remuneration, in which
21 case it is a Class 4 felony.

22 (2) After a first conviction of unlawful interference with
23 public utility services any subsequent conviction shall be a
24 Class 4 felony.

25 (3) If the disruption of the public utility services or the
26 delay in the restoration of the public utility services occurs

1 to 10 or more customers or affects an area of more than one
2 square mile, unlawful interference with public utility
3 services is a Class 2 felony.

4 (Source: P.A. 88-75.)