This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Council without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

Act No. 81 (S.95). Utilities; municipal electric companies; financing; net metering

An act relating to municipal utility capital investment

This act concerns the financing authority of municipal electric companies and the Vermont Public Power Supply Authority (VPPSA), as well as net metering. With respect to the financing provisions, the act: permits the legislative branch of a municipal electric plant to authorize a bond issuance without voter approval if the amount of the issuance does not exceed 50 percent of the total assets of the plant; exempts a municipality from having to obtain the approval of the Public Utility Commission (PUC) prior to incurring indebtedness that is below a certain financial threshold, however, if PUC approval is required, the act allows the municipality to obtain voter approval before obtaining PUC approval; and exempts VPPSA from having to obtain PUC approval before incurring indebtedness.

This act also concerns net metering projects and requires the PUC to issue a final determination concerning certain applications within 90 days and allows some school districts to exceed the cumulative capacity limit established in the PUC rule of 500 kW per customer.

Effective Date: July 1, 2019