

1 S.229

2 Introduced by Senator Illuzzi

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Utilities; bill payment; online; credit or debit card; fees

6 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to require the public service board to
7 regulate the payment of utility bills through online services or with a credit or
8 debit card.

9 An act relating to utility bill payments

10 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

11 Sec. 1. 30 V.S.A. § 218(h) is added to read:

12 (h) With respect to companies subject to the board's jurisdiction under
13 section 203 of this title, and after receipt of a proposal by the commissioner of
14 public service, the board shall establish by November 1, 2012 an order
15 regarding the payment of retail charges online or by means of a credit or debit
16 card. The board shall investigate the fees and expenses associated with such
17 forms of payment and shall prescribe applicable terms, including how such
18 fees and expenses can be recovered by a company and the establishment of a
19 statewide maximum fee, if deemed appropriate by the board.

- 1 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE
- 2 This act shall take effect on passage.