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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 Counsel 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.

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**Act No. 142 (S.305). An act relating to miscellaneous changes related to the Public Utility Commission**

**Subjects: Public service; utilities; Public Utility Commission**

This act makes multiple changes related to programs of the Public Utility Commission (PUC). The act updates references to notice requirements for hearings before the Public Utility Commission. The act amends the Energy Efficiency Modernization Act pilot program from 2020 that allows efficiency utilities to spend a portion of their energy efficiency funds on thermal and transportation efficiency programs. It removes the PUC's authority to review and approve the budget and programs under this pilot and sets a cap on the amount that can be spent. The act also makes changes to the Clean Heat Standard, including changing the annual registration date for fuel sellers to June 30 from January 31, striking the requirement that all information submitted by fuel sellers be posted on the PUC's website, changing the date by which the default delivery agent needs to be appointed by, and giving the Commissioner of Taxes discretion to share tax return information with the PUC and the Department of Public Service for compliance with the Clean Heat Standard. The act also sets the fees for certificates of public good for energy storage facilities. The act updates the energy savings account program so that customer funds can be spent on electric energy efficiency projects and non-electric efficiency projects and sets a cap on the program. The act directs the PUC to report back on how to support the development of thermal energy networks and the permitting of thermal energy network providers. The act extends the deadlines by one year for the required construction of an efficiency project at the baseload power plant. The act changes the advanced notice requirement for Dig Safe from 48 hours to 72 hours. The act directs the PUC to study current and potential future programs and initiatives focused on reducing or stabilizing energy costs for low- or moderate-income households.

Multiple effective dates, beginning on May 30, 2024