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H.21

Introduced by Representatives Page of Newport City, Higley of Lowell, Labor
of Morgan, Smith of Derby, and Williams of Granby

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Utilities; disconnection; rental properties; landlord notice

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require a
utility to notify the owner of a rental property when service to the property has
been disconnected even if the tenant is the ratepayer.

An act relating to landlord notice of utility disconnections

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

Sec. 1. UTILITY DISCONNECTION; LANDLORD NOTIFICATION

For the purpose of promoting safety, the protection of property, and
providing assistance to tenants, the Public Utility Commission shall revise its
applicable rules to ensure that a utility provides notice of a utility service
disconnection to the residential or nonresidential property owner even if the
tenant is the ratepayer. As used in this section, “utility service” means gas,
electric, water, and sewer service. The notice requirement developed by the
Public Utility Commission pursuant to this section also shall apply to
disconnections of water and sewer service provided by a water or sewer system

1 owned by a municipality, fire district, or private company subject to the
2 uniform water and sewer disconnection requirements in 24 V.S.A. chapter 129.

3 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

4 This act shall take effect on passage.