

SUPPORT HB [1604](#)/SB [1321](#)

Topic: Electric Utility Regulation

Bill Patron: Del. Lee Ware, Del. Rip Sullivan
Sen. Jennifer McClellan, Sen. Creigh Deeds

Overview:

Virginians' electric bills no longer reflect the actual cost of producing and distributing electricity to customers; rather, they are padded with overcharges from Virginia's electric monopolies. The bipartisan Affordable Energy Act would restore the State Corporation Commission's authority to direct Virginia's investor-owned electric monopolies, Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power Company, to lower rates when they overcharge customers. This simple bill restores the regulatory authority granted to the State Corporation Commission in exchange for allowing these companies to have monopolies in their service territories.

Reasons to support:

- The SCC reports that Dominion's current rates overcharged customers by \$152.1 million in 2021 alone. Since 2009, Dominion has overcharged customers by at least \$1.9 billion.
- Virginia needs legislative reform to create a fair system for everyone who pays an electricity bill, from families juggling gas in the tank and food on the table to businesses seeking affordable prices so they can create jobs and boost the economy.
- The 2023 legislative session is the last opportunity to restore the SCC's authority to prevent customer overcharges before APCO's rate review in 2023 and Dominion's in 2024.



**Appalachian
Voices**

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**VIRGINIA
CONSERVATION
NETWORK**

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This position was taken by Virginia Conservation Network (VCN)'s Legislative Committee and Board of Directors and is supported by Virginia's conservation community. For a complete list of VCN positions, visit www.vcnva.org/bill-tracker. VCN is committed to building a powerful, diverse, and highly-coordinated conservation movement focused on protecting our Commonwealth's natural resources today and for tomorrow.