

# SENATE, No. 341

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator TROY SINGLETON**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Greenstein, Pou and Gopal**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires electric public utility to replace certain distribution service equipment over period of 36 months if certain sustained service interruptions occur.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



S341 SINGLETON

1 AN ACT concerning the replacement of certain electric public utility  
2 service equipment and supplementing Title 48 of the Revised  
3 Statutes.

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5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:

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8 1. As used in P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the  
9 Legislature as this bill):

10 "Back yard distribution equipment" means distribution  
11 equipment located within the rear portion of any residential  
12 property where an electric public utility has an easement.

13 "Board" means the Board of Public Utilities or any successor  
14 agency.

15 "Distribution equipment" means a cable, line, wire, and other  
16 appurtenant equipment for the provision of electric distribution  
17 service from a substation of an electric public utility to a building or  
18 structure of a customer of the utility.

19 "Electric public utility" or "utility" means a public utility, as that  
20 term is defined in R.S.48:2-13, that provides electric distribution  
21 service in this State.

22 "Sustained service interruption" means the cessation of electric  
23 public utility service to one or more customers lasting more than  
24 two consecutive hours in length.

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26 2. The board shall adopt, pursuant to the "Administrative  
27 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), rules and  
28 regulations requiring an electric public utility to establish a  
29 timeline, not to exceed 36 months, for the replacement of the  
30 utility's back yard distribution equipment within a municipality, if  
31 the utility provides electric distribution service using back yard  
32 distribution equipment to at least 50 percent of the residences of the  
33 municipality and if residential customers provided with electric  
34 distribution service using back yard distribution equipment within  
35 that municipality reported to the utility at least 250 incidents of a  
36 sustained service interruption each year for the previous five-year  
37 period. An electric public utility providing electric distribution  
38 service using back yard distribution equipment to at least 50 percent  
39 of the residences of a municipality shall annually provide notice to  
40 the board, as determined by the board, of the number of incidents  
41 during the prior year of a sustained service interruption reported by  
42 the utility's residential customers provided with electric distribution  
43 service using back yard distribution equipment within that  
44 municipality.

45  
46 3. This act shall take effect on the 60th day after the date of  
47 enactment, but the Board of Public Utilities may take any  
48 anticipatory administrative action in advance thereof as shall be

**S341 SINGLETON**

1 necessary for the timely implementation of P.L. , c. (C. )  
2 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

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STATEMENT

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7 As reported, this bill requires the Board of Public Utilities (BPU)  
8 to adopt rules and regulations requiring an electric public utility  
9 (utility) to establish a timeline, not to exceed 36 months, for the  
10 replacement of the utility’s “back yard distribution equipment,” as  
11 defined in the bill, within a municipality if the utility provides electric  
12 distribution service using back yard distribution equipment to at least  
13 50 percent of the residences of the municipality and if residential  
14 customers provided with electric distribution service using back yard  
15 distribution equipment within that municipality reported to the utility  
16 at least 250 incidents of a “sustained service interruption,” as defined  
17 in the bill, each year for the previous five-year period. An electric  
18 public utility providing electric distribution service using back yard  
19 distribution equipment to at least 50 percent of the residences of a  
20 municipality shall annually provide notice to the board, as determined  
21 by the board, of the number of incidents during the prior year of a  
22 sustained service interruption reported by the utility’s residential  
23 customers provided with electric distribution service using back yard  
24 distribution equipment within that municipality.