

[First Reprint]

**SENATE, No. 341**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**220th LEGISLATURE**

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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**

As reported by the Senate Economic Growth Committee on February 10, 2022, with amendments.



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

4  
5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:

7  
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.

25  
26 2. <sup>1a.1</sup> 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.

38 <sup>1b.1</sup> An electric public utility providing electric distribution  
39 service using back yard distribution equipment to at least 50 percent  
40 of the residences of a municipality shall annually provide notice to  
41 the board, as determined by the board, of the number of incidents  
42 during the prior year of a sustained service interruption reported by  
43 the utility’s residential customers provided with electric distribution

**EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

**Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:**

**<sup>1</sup>Senate SEG committee amendments adopted February 10, 2022.**

S341 [1R] SINGLETON

1 service using back yard distribution equipment within that  
2 municipality.

3 <sup>1</sup>c. For the purposes of this section, each report of a sustained  
4 service interruption by a residential customer shall constitute one  
5 incident of a sustained service interruption.<sup>1</sup>

6  
7 3. This act shall take effect on the 60th day after the date of  
8 enactment, but the Board of Public Utilities may take any  
9 anticipatory administrative action in advance thereof as shall be  
10 necessary for the timely implementation of P.L. , c. (C. )  
11 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).