

# 2026 SESSION

INTRODUCED

26103219D

1 **HOUSE BILL NO. 242**

2 Offered January 14, 2026

3 Prefiled January 8, 2026

4 *A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 56-247.2, relating to public utilities;*  
5 *multiple budget plan payment increases within 12 months prohibited; notice required.*

6 Patron—Cole, J.G.

7  
8 Committee Referral Pending  
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10 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

11 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 56-247.2 as follows:**

12 **§ 56-247.2. Budget plan payment increase; notice required.**

13 *A. As used in this section, "budget plan" means a fixed billing option offered by a public utility to a*  
14 *customer whereby the total service for the succeeding 12-month period is estimated in advance and bills are*  
15 *rendered monthly on the basis of one-twelfth of the 12-month estimate.*

16 *B. No public utility shall, for any residential customer who is enrolled in a budget plan or similar billing*  
17 *option, increase the amount of such customer's monthly payment more than once within any 12-month period*  
18 *or without notifying the customer in writing at least 30 days before such increase takes effect.*

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HB242