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SENATE BILL NO. 253

Offered January 14, 2026

Prefiled January 12, 2026

A BILL to amend and reenact § 56-585.1:2 of the Code of Virginia, relating to electric utilities; pilot program for energy assistance and weatherization for certain individuals; cost recovery for certain electrical facilities.

Patrons—Lucas; Delegate: Carnegie

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 56-585.1:2 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 56-585.1:2. Pilot program for energy assistance and weatherization.

Notwithstanding the provisions of §§ 56-249.6 and 56-585.1:

Each Phase I and II Utility shall conduct a pilot program for energy assistance and weatherization for low income low-income, elderly, and disabled individuals in their respective service territories in the Commonwealth. Each pilot program shall be funded by the utility and shall commence September 1, 2015. Each Phase I Utility shall continue such pilot program at no less than the existing levels of funding as of July 1, 2018, \$1 million and no greater than \$1.5 million for each year that the utility provides such service. Each Phase II Utility shall continue such pilot program at no less than \$13 million and no greater than \$17 million for each year the utility is providing such service. The funding for the pilot programs established pursuant hereto for energy assistance and weatherization for low-income, elderly, and disabled individuals in the service territory in the Commonwealth of each respective utility shall continue until the earlier of amendment or repeal of this section or July 1, 2028 2038. Each such utility shall report on the status of its pilot program, including the number of individuals served thereby and the amount of annual expenditures for such program, to the Governor, the State Corporation Commission, the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation, the Chairman of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce, and the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor by July 1, 2016, and of each year thereafter.

2. That a Phase II Utility, as defined in subdivision A 1 of § 56-585.1 of the Code of Virginia, may recover costs associated with any petition for cost recovery made pursuant to clause (iv) of subdivision A 6 of § 56-585.1 of the Code of Virginia that has been approved by the Commission as of December 1, 2038, notwithstanding any time limitations on such cost recovery under subdivision A 6 of § 56-585.1 of the Code of Virginia

INTRODUCED

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