

ASSEMBLY, No. 2967

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 20, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman PARKER SPACE

District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

SYNOPSIS

Requires electric public utilities to maintain registry of retired employees to undertake certain tasks during certain power outages caused by major events.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning certain electric public utility emergency
2 response measures 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 “Board” means the Board of Public Utilities or any successor
11 agency.

12 “Electric public utility” or “utility” means a public utility, as
13 defined in R.S.48:2-13, that operates an electricity distribution
14 system for public use within this State.

15 “Major event” means an occurrence arising from conditions
16 beyond the control of an electric public utility, including, but not
17 limited to, a terrorist attack, thunderstorm, tornado, hurricane,
18 flood, heat wave, snow storm, ice storm, or earthquake, which result
19 in:

20 a. a sustained interruption of utility service to at least 10
21 percent of the customers in a service area or 10 percent of a utility’s
22 customers within a municipality or county located in a utility
23 service area; or

24 b. the declaration of a state of emergency or disaster by the
25 State or by the federal government.

26 “Service area” means a defined geographical service territory
27 where an electric public utility operates an electricity distribution
28 system for public use within this State as approved by the board.

29 “Sustained interruption” means the cessation of electric public
30 utility service to one or more customers lasting more than 48 hours.

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32 2. An electric public utility shall establish and maintain a
33 registry of retired employees of the utility who are willing to be
34 hired on a short-term, temporary basis by the utility to undertake
35 those tasks for which they are trained to assist the utility to respond
36 quickly and efficiently during a sustained interruption caused by a
37 major event.

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39 3. This act shall take effect immediately, but shall remain
40 inoperative for 60 days following the date of enactment.

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STATEMENT

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45 This bill requires an electric public utility (utility) to establish
46 and maintain a registry of retired employees of the utility who are
47 willing to be hired on a short-term, temporary basis by the utility to
48 undertake those tasks for which they are trained to assist the utility
49 to respond quickly and efficiently during a “sustained interruption”
50 caused by a “major event” as those terms are defined in the bill.