

ASSEMBLY, No. 911

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

214th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2010 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman UPENDRA J. CHIVUKULA

District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset)

Assemblyman ALBERT COUTINHO

District 29 (Essex and Union)

Assemblyman RUBEN J. RAMOS, JR.

District 33 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Rodriguez

SYNOPSIS

Authorizes public providers of utility services to bill customers electronically upon customers' request.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



1 AN ACT concerning certain billing practices of public providers of
2 utility services and amending and supplementing various parts of
3 the statutory law.
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:
7

8 1. Section 7 of P.L.1946, c.138 (C.40:14A-7) is amended to
9 read as follows:

10 7. Every sewerage authority shall be a public body politic and
11 corporate constituting a political subdivision of the State
12 established as an instrumentality exercising public and essential
13 governmental functions to provide for the public health and welfare
14 and shall have perpetual succession and have the following powers:

15 (1) To adopt and have a common seal and to alter the same at
16 pleasure;

17 (2) To sue and to be sued;

18 (3) In the name of the sewerage authority and on its behalf, to
19 acquire, hold, use and dispose of its service charges and other
20 revenues and other moneys;

21 (4) In the name of the sewerage authority but for the local unit or
22 units, to acquire, hold, use and dispose of other personal property
23 for the purposes of the sewerage authority;

24 (5) In the name of the sewerage authority but for the local unit or
25 units, to acquire by purchase, gift, condemnation or otherwise, real
26 property and easements therein, necessary or useful and convenient
27 for the purposes of the sewerage authority, and subject to
28 mortgages, deeds of trust or other liens, or otherwise, and to hold
29 and to use the same, and to dispose of property so acquired no
30 longer necessary for the purposes of the sewerage authority;

31 (6) To provide for and secure the payment of any bonds and the
32 rights of the holders thereof, and to purchase, hold and dispose of
33 any bonds;

34 (7) To accept gifts or grants of real or personal property, money,
35 material, labor or supplies for the purposes of the sewerage
36 authority, and to make and perform such agreements and contracts
37 as may be necessary or convenient in connection with the
38 procuring, acceptance or disposition of such gifts or grants;

39 (8) To enter on any lands, waters or premises for the purpose of
40 making surveys, borings, soundings and examinations for the
41 purposes of the sewerage authority, and whenever the operation of a
42 septic tank or other component of an on-site wastewater system
43 shall result in the creation of pollution or contamination source on
44 private property such that under the provisions of R.S.26:3-49, a
45 local board of health would have the authority to notify the owner

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.

1 and require said owner to abate the same, representatives of an
2 authority shall have the power to enter, at all reasonable times, any
3 premises on which such pollution or contamination source shall
4 exist, for the purpose of inspecting, rehabilitating, securing samples
5 of any discharges, improving, repairing, replacing, or upgrading
6 such septic tank or other component of an on-site wastewater
7 system;

8 (9) To establish an inspection program to be performed at least
9 once every 3 years on all on-site wastewater systems installed
10 within its district which inspection program shall contain the
11 following minimum notice provisions: (i) not less than 30 days
12 prior to the date of the inspection of an on-site wastewater system
13 as described herein, the authority shall notify the owner and
14 resident of the property that the inspection will occur; and (ii) not
15 less than 60 days prior to the date of the performance of any work
16 other than an inspection, the sewerage authority shall provide notice
17 to the owner and resident of the property on which the work will be
18 performed. The notice to be provided to such owner and resident
19 under this subsection shall include a description of the deficiency
20 which necessitates the work and the proposed remedial action, and
21 the proposed date for beginning and duration of the contemplated
22 remedial action;

23 (10) To prepare and file in the office of the sewerage authority
24 records of all inspections, rehabilitation, maintenance, and work,
25 performed with respect to on-site wastewater disposal systems;

26 (11) To make and enforce bylaws or rules and regulations for the
27 management and regulation of its business and affairs and for the
28 use, maintenance and operation of the sewerage system and any
29 other of its properties, and to amend the same;

30 (12) To do and perform any acts and things authorized by this act
31 under, through or by means of its own officers, agents and
32 employees, or by contracts with any persons;

33 (13) To enter into any and all contracts, execute any and all
34 instruments, and do and perform any and all acts or things
35 necessary, convenient or desirable for the purposes of the sewerage
36 authority or to carry out any power expressly given in this act
37 subject to the "Local Public Contracts Law," P.L.1971, c.198
38 (C.40A:11-1 et seq.); **[and]**

39 (14) To enter into any and all lease agreements with sewerage
40 authorities, and municipalities, and counties operating sewerage
41 systems, for the rental of equipment owned by authority and
42 municipality and/or county, together with the personnel to operate
43 said equipment; and

44 (15) Upon the request of a customer: (i) to offer the customer the
45 ability to receive or access, in electronic format, any periodic bill
46 for service sent by the sewerage authority to its customers and any
47 additional information sent by the sewerage authority to its

1 customers as required by law, provided that any notice of
2 disconnection, discontinuance or termination of sewerage service
3 shall be sent to a customer in written form at the customer's legal
4 mailing address in addition to being sent or being made available in
5 electronic format; and (ii) to provide the customer the option of
6 paying any such periodic bill via electronic means.

7 (cf: P.L.1980, c.77, s.2)

8

9 2. Section 20 of P.L.1957, c.183 (C.40:14B-20) is amended to
10 read as follows:

11 20. Every municipal authority shall be a public body politic and
12 corporate constituting a political subdivision of the State
13 established as an instrumentality exercising public and essential
14 governmental functions to provide for the public health and welfare
15 and shall have perpetual succession and have the following powers:

16 (1) To adopt and have a common seal and to alter the same at
17 pleasure;

18 (2) To sue and be sued;

19 (3) In the name of the municipal authority and on its behalf, to
20 acquire, hold, use and dispose of its service charges and other
21 revenues and other moneys;

22 (4) In the name of the municipal authority but for the local unit
23 or units, to acquire, rent, hold, lease as lessor, use and dispose of
24 other personal property for the purposes of the municipal authority;

25 (5) In the name of the municipal authority but for the local unit
26 or units and subject to the limitations of this act, to acquire by
27 purchase, gift, condemnation or otherwise, or lease as lessee, real
28 property and easements therein, necessary or useful and convenient
29 for the purposes of the municipal authority, and subject to
30 mortgages, deeds of trust or other liens, or otherwise, and to hold,
31 lease as lessor, and to use the same, and to dispose of property so
32 acquired no longer necessary for the purposes of the municipal
33 authority;

34 (6) To produce, develop, purchase, accumulate, distribute and
35 sell water and water services, facilities and products within or
36 without the district, provided that no water shall be sold at retail in
37 any municipality without the district unless the governing body of
38 such municipality shall have adopted a resolution requesting the
39 municipal authority to sell water at retail in such municipality, and
40 the board of public utility commissioners shall have approved such
41 resolution as necessary and proper for the public convenience;

42 (7) To provide for and secure the payment of any bonds and the
43 rights of the holders thereof, and to purchase, hold and dispose of
44 any bonds;

45 (8) To accept gifts or grants of real or personal property, money,
46 material, labor or supplies for the purposes of the municipal
47 authority, and to make and perform such agreements and contracts

1 as may be necessary or convenient in connection with the
2 procuring, acceptance or disposition of such gifts or grants;

3 (9) To enter on any lands, waters or premises for the purpose of
4 making surveys, borings, soundings and examinations for the
5 purposes of the municipal authority, and whenever the operation of
6 a septic tank or other component of an on-site wastewater system
7 shall result in the creation of pollution or contamination source on
8 private property such that under the provisions of R.S.26:3-49, a
9 local board of health would have the authority to notify the owner
10 and require said owner to abate the same, representatives of an
11 authority shall have the power to enter, at all reasonable times, any
12 premises on which such pollution or contamination source shall
13 exist, for the purpose of inspecting, rehabilitating, securing samples
14 of any discharges, improving, repairing, replacing, or upgrading
15 such septic tank or other component of an on-site wastewater
16 system;

17 (10) To establish an inspection program to be performed at least
18 once every three years on all on-site wastewater systems installed
19 within the district which inspection program shall contain the
20 following minimum notice provisions: (i) not less than 30 days
21 prior to the date of the inspection of any on-site wastewater system
22 as described herein, the authority shall notify the owner and
23 resident of the property that the inspection will occur; and (ii) not
24 less than 60 days prior to the date of the performance of any work
25 other than an inspection, the municipal authority shall provide
26 notice to the owner and resident of the property in which the work
27 will be performed. The notice to be provided to such owner and
28 resident under this subsection shall include a description of the
29 deficiency which necessitates the work and the proposed remedial
30 action, and the proposed date for beginning and duration of the
31 contemplated remedial action;

32 (11) To prepare and file in the office of the municipal authority
33 records of all inspections, rehabilitation, maintenance, and work,
34 performed with respect to on-site wastewater disposal systems;

35 (12) To make and enforce bylaws or rules and regulations for the
36 management and regulation of its business and affairs and for the
37 use, maintenance and operation of the utility system and any other
38 of its properties, and to amend the same;

39 (13) To do and perform any acts and things authorized by this act
40 under, through or by means of its own officers, agents and
41 employees, or by contracts with any person;

42 (14) To enter into any and all contracts, execute any and all
43 instruments, and do and perform any and all acts or things
44 necessary, convenient or desirable for the purposes of the municipal
45 authority or to carry out any power expressly given in this act
46 subject to the "Local Public Contracts Law," P.L.1971, c. 198 (C.
47 40A:11-1 et seq.); **【and】**

1 (15) To extend credit or make loans to any person for the
2 planning, designing, acquiring, constructing, reconstructing,
3 improving, equipping, furnishing, and operating by that person of
4 any part of a solid waste system, sewage treatment system,
5 wastewater treatment or collection system for the provision of
6 services and facilities within or without the district, which in the
7 case of a solid waste system shall be in a manner consistent with the
8 "Solid Waste Management Act," P.L.1970, c.39 (C.13:1E-1 et seq.)
9 and in conformance with the solid waste management plans adopted
10 by the solid waste management districts created therein. The
11 credits or loans may be secured by loan and security agreements,
12 mortgages, leases and any other instruments, upon such terms as the
13 authority shall deem reasonable, including provision for the
14 establishment and maintenance of reserve and insurance funds, and
15 to require the inclusion in any mortgage, lease, contract, loan and
16 security agreement or other instrument, provisions for the
17 construction, use, operation and maintenance and financing of that
18 part of the aforementioned systems as the authority may deem
19 necessary or desirable; and

20 (16) Upon the request of a customer: (i) to offer the customer the
21 ability to receive or access, in electronic format, any periodic bill
22 for service sent by the municipal authority to its customers and any
23 additional information sent by the municipal authority to its
24 customers as required by law, provided that any notice of
25 disconnection, discontinuance or termination of service shall be
26 sent to a customer in written form at the customer's legal mailing
27 address in addition to being sent or being made available in
28 electronic format; and (ii) to provide the customer the option of
29 paying any such periodic bill via electronic means.

30 (cf: P.L.1984, c.178, s.2)

31

32 3. (New section) Upon the request of a customer, a
33 municipality providing heat, light or power may:

34 a. offer the customer the ability to receive or access, in
35 electronic format, any periodic bill for service sent by such
36 municipality to its customers and any additional information sent by
37 the municipality to its customers as required by law, provided that
38 any notice of disconnection, discontinuance or termination of
39 service shall be sent to a customer in written form at the customer's
40 legal mailing address in addition to being sent or being made
41 available in electronic format; and

42 b. provide the customer of such municipality the option of
43 paying any such periodic bill via electronic means.

44

45 4. (New section) Upon the request of a customer, a
46 municipality that has established a water district and which operates
47 a water system may:

48 a. offer the customer the ability to receive or access, in

1 electronic format, any periodic bill for service sent by such
2 municipality to its customers and any additional information sent by
3 the municipality to its customers as required by law, provided that
4 any notice of disconnection, discontinuance or termination of water
5 service shall be sent to a customer in written form at the customer's
6 legal mailing address in addition to being sent or being made
7 available in electronic format; and

8 b. provide the customer of such municipality the option of
9 paying any such periodic bill via electronic means.

10

11 5. (New section) Upon the request of a customer, a water
12 commission may:

13 a. offer the customer the ability to receive or access, in
14 electronic format, any periodic bill for service sent by such water
15 commission to its customers and any additional information sent by
16 the water commission to its customers as required by law, provided
17 that any notice of disconnection, discontinuance or termination of
18 water service shall be sent to a customer in written form at the
19 customer's legal mailing address in addition to being sent or being
20 made available in electronic format; and

21 b. provide the customer of such water commission the option
22 of paying any such periodic bill via electronic means.

23

24 6. N.J.S.40A:26A-5 is amended to read as follows:

25 40A:26A-5. One or more local units adopting an ordinance or
26 resolution in accordance with N.J.S.40A:26A-4 are authorized and
27 empowered:

28 a. To acquire, construct, improve, extend, enlarge or
29 reconstruct and finance sewerage facilities, and to operate, manage
30 and control all or part of these facilities and all properties relating
31 thereto;

32 b. To issue bonds of the local unit or units to pay all or part of
33 the cost of the purchase, construction, improvement, extension,
34 enlargement or reconstruction of sewerage facilities;

35 c. To receive and accept from the federal or State government,
36 or any agency or instrumentality thereof, grants or loans for, or in
37 aid of, the planning, purchase, construction, improvement
38 extension, enlargement or reconstruction, or financing of sewerage
39 facilities, and to receive and accept from any source, contributions
40 or money, property, labor or other things of value to be held, used
41 and applied only for the purposes for which the grants or loans and
42 contributions are made;

43 d. To acquire in the name of the local unit or units by gift,
44 purchase, or by the exercise of the right of eminent domain, lands
45 and rights and interests therein, including lands under water and
46 riparian rights, and personal property as may be deemed necessary
47 for acquisition, construction, improvement, extension, enlargement
48 or reconstruction, or for the efficient operation of any facilities

1 acquired or constructed under the provisions of **【this act】**
2 N.J.S.40A:26A-1 et seq. and to hold and dispose of all real and
3 personal property so acquired;

4 e. To make and enter into all contracts and agreements
5 necessary or incidental to the performance of the local unit's or
6 units' duties and the execution of powers authorized under **【this**
7 **act】** N.J.S.40A:26A-1 et seq., and to employ engineers,
8 superintendents, managers, attorneys, financial or other consultants
9 or experts, and other employees and agents as may be deemed
10 necessary, and to fix their compensation;

11 f. Subject to the provisions and restrictions set forth in the
12 ordinance or resolution authorizing or securing any bonds issued
13 under the provisions of **【this act】** N.J.S.40A:26A-1 et seq., to enter
14 into contracts with the federal or State Government, or any agency
15 or instrumentality thereof, or with any other local unit, private
16 corporation, copartnership, association or individual providing for,
17 or relating to, sewerage services which contracts may provide for
18 the furnishing of sewerage facility services either by or to the local
19 unit or units, or the joint construction or operation of sewerage
20 facilities;

21 g. To fix and collect rates, fees, rents and other charges in
22 accordance with **【this act】** N.J.S.40A:26A-1 et seq.;

23 h. To prevent toxic pollutants from entering the sewerage
24 system;

25 i. Upon the request of a customer: (1) to offer the customer the
26 ability to receive or access, in electronic format, any periodic bill
27 for service sent by the local unit or units to its customers and any
28 additional information sent by the local unit or units to its
29 customers as required by law, provided that any notice of
30 disconnection, discontinuance or termination of sewerage service
31 shall be sent to a customer in written form at the customer's legal
32 mailing address in addition to being sent or being made available in
33 electronic format; and (2) to provide the customer the option of
34 paying any such periodic bill via electronic means; and

35 j. To exercise any other powers necessary or incidental to the
36 effectuation of the general purpose of **【this act】** N.J.S.40A:26A-1 et
37 seq.

38 (cf: N.J.S.40A:26A-5)

39

40 7. N.J.S.40A:31-5 is amended to read as follows:

41 40A:31-5. One or more local units adopting an ordinance or
42 resolution in accordance with N.J.S.40A:31-4 are authorized and
43 empowered:

44 a. Alone or in combination with a private water company or the
45 State, to acquire, construct, improve, extend, enlarge or reconstruct
46 and finance water supply facilities, and to operate, manage and

- 1 control all or part of these facilities and all properties relating
2 thereto;
- 3 b. To issue bonds of the local unit or units to pay all or part of
4 the cost of the water supply facilities;
- 5 c. To receive and accept from the federal or State government,
6 or any agency or instrumentality thereof, grants or loans for, or in
7 aid of, the planning, purchase, construction, improvement,
8 extension, enlargement or reconstruction, or financing of water
9 supply facilities, and to receive and accept from any source,
10 contributions or money, property, labor or other things of value to
11 be held, used and applied only for the purposes for which the grants
12 or loans and contributions are made;
- 13 d. To acquire in the name of the local unit or units by gift,
14 purchase, or by the exercise of the right of eminent domain, such
15 lands and rights and interests therein, including lands under water
16 and riparian rights, and such personal property as may be deemed
17 necessary for acquisition, construction, improvement, extension,
18 enlargement or reconstruction, or for the efficient operation of any
19 facilities acquired or constructed under the provisions of **【this act】**
20 N.J.S.40A:31-1 et seq. and to hold and dispose of all real and
21 personal property so acquired;
- 22 e. To make and enter into all contracts and agreements
23 necessary or incidental to the performance of the local unit's or
24 units' duties and the execution of powers authorized under **【this**
25 **act】** N.J.S.40A:31-1 et seq., and to employ consulting and other
26 engineers, superintendents, managers, attorneys, financial or other
27 consultants or experts, and such other employees and agents as may
28 be deemed necessary, and to fix their compensation;
- 29 f. Subject to the provisions and restrictions set forth in the
30 ordinance or resolution authorizing or securing any bonds issued
31 under the provisions of **【this act】** N.J.S.40A:31-1 et seq., to enter
32 into contracts with the federal or State government, or any agency
33 or instrumentality thereof, or with any other local unit, private
34 corporation, copartnership, association or individual providing for,
35 or relating to, water supply, which contracts may provide for the
36 furnishing of water supply services either by or to the local unit or
37 units, or the joint construction or operation of water supply
38 facilities;
- 39 g. To fix and collect rates, fees, rents and other charges in
40 accordance with **【this act】** N.J.S.40A:31-1 et seq.;
- 41 h. Upon the request of a customer: (1) to offer the customer the
42 ability to receive or access, in electronic format, any periodic bill
43 for service sent by the local unit or units to its customers and any
44 additional information sent by the local unit or units to its
45 customers as required by law, provided that any notice of
46 disconnection, discontinuance or termination of water service shall
47 be sent to a customer in written form at the customer's legal mailing

1 address in addition to being sent or being made available in
2 electronic format; and (2) to provide the customer the option of
3 paying any such periodic bill via electronic means; and

4 i. To exercise any other powers necessary or incidental to the
5 effectuation of the general purposes of **[this act]** N.J.S.40A:31-1 et
6 seq.
7 (cf: N.J.S.40A:31-5)

8
9 8. Section 7 of P.L.1981, c.293 (C.58:1B-7) is amended to read
10 as follows:

11 7. Except as otherwise limited by **[the act]** P.L.1981, c.293
12 (C.58:1B-1 et seq.), the authority shall have power:

13 a. To sue and be sued.

14 b. To have an official seal and alter the same at pleasure.

15 c. To make and alter bylaws for its organization and internal
16 management and for the conduct of its affairs and business.

17 d. To maintain an office at such place or places within the State
18 as it may determine.

19 e. To acquire, lease as lessee or lessor, rent, hold, use and
20 dispose of real or personal property for its purposes.

21 f. To borrow money and to issue its negotiable bonds and to
22 secure the same by a mortgage on its property or any part thereof
23 and otherwise to provide for and secure the payment thereof and to
24 provide for the rights of the holders thereof.

25 g. To fix and revise from time to time and charge and collect
26 rents, fees and charges for any of the services rendered by the
27 authority, which shall be equitably assessed.

28 h. To procure insurance against any losses in connection with
29 its property, operations or assets in such amounts and from such
30 insurers as it deems desirable.

31 i. Subject to any agreement with bondholders to invest moneys
32 of the authority not required for immediate use, including proceeds
33 from the sale of any bonds, in such obligations, securities and other
34 investments as the authority shall deem prudent.

35 j. To appoint and employ an executive director and such
36 additional officers who need not be members of the authority and
37 accountants, financial advisors or experts and such other or
38 different officers, agents and employees as it may require and
39 determine their qualifications, terms of office, duties and
40 compensation, all without regard to the provisions of Title **[11]**
41 11A, Civil Service, of the **[Revised]** New Jersey Statutes, except
42 with respect to those officers and employees of the Water Supply
43 Facilities Element who are transferred to the authority pursuant to
44 section 24 of **[this act]** P.L.1981, c.293 (C.58:1B-1 et seq.), and
45 these officers and employees shall remain subject to the provisions
46 of that Title.

- 1 k. To contract for and to accept any gifts or grants or loans of
2 funds or property or financial or other aid in any form from the
3 United States of America or any agency or instrumentality thereof,
4 or from the State or any agency, instrumentality or political
5 subdivision thereof, or from any other source and to comply,
6 subject to the provisions of **【this act】 P.L.1981, c.293 (C.58:1B-1 et**
7 **seq.)**, with the terms and conditions thereof.
- 8 l. To acquire, hold, rent, lease, use and dispose of real or
9 personal property in the exercise of its powers and the performance
10 of its duties under **【this act】 P.L.1981, c.293 (C.58:1B-1 et seq.)**.
- 11 m. To acquire, subject to the provisions of any other statute, in
12 the name of the authority by purchase or otherwise, on such terms
13 and conditions and in such manner as it may deem proper, except
14 with respect to property owned by the State, by the exercise of the
15 power of eminent domain, any land and other property, which it
16 may determine is reasonably necessary for any of its projects and
17 any and all rights, title and interest in that land and other property,
18 including, providing there is no prudent and feasible alternative,
19 public lands, reservations, highways or parkways, owned by or in
20 which the State or any county, municipality, public corporation, or
21 other political subdivision of the State has any right, title or interest,
22 or parts thereof or rights therein and any fee simple absolute or any
23 lesser interest in private property, and any fee simple absolute in,
24 easements upon or the benefit of restrictions upon, abutting
25 property to preserve and protect the project.
- 26 n. To do and perform any acts and things authorized by **【the**
27 **act】 P.L.1981, c.293 (C.58:1B-1 et seq.)** under, through, or by
28 means of its officers, agents or employees or by contract with any
29 person.
- 30 o. To establish and enforce rules and regulations for the use
31 and operation of its projects and the conduct of its activities, and
32 provide for the policing and the security of its projects.
- 33 p. Upon the request of a customer: (1) to offer the customer the
34 ability to receive or access, in electronic format, any periodic bill
35 for service sent by the local unit or units to its customers and any
36 additional information sent by the local unit or units to its
37 customers as required by law, provided that any notice of
38 disconnection, discontinuance or termination of sewerage service
39 shall be sent to a customer in written form at the customer's legal
40 mailing address in addition to being sent or being made available in
41 electronic format; and (2) to provide the customer the option of
42 paying any such periodic bill via electronic means.
- 43 q. To do any and all things necessary or convenient to carry out
44 its purposes in accordance with the powers given and granted in
45 **【the act】 P.L.1981, c.293 (C.58:1B-1 et seq.)**.
46 (cf: P.L.1981, c. 293, s. 7)

1 9. (New section) Upon the request of a customer, a district
2 water supply commission may:

3 a. offer the customer the ability to receive or access, in
4 electronic format, any periodic bill for service sent by such district
5 water supply commission to its customers and any additional
6 information sent by the water commission to its customers as
7 required by law, provided that any notice of disconnection,
8 discontinuance or termination of water service shall be sent to a
9 customer in written form at the customer's legal mailing address in
10 addition to being sent or being made available in electronic format;
11 and

12 b. provide the customer of such district water supply
13 commission the option of paying any such periodic bill via
14 electronic means.

15
16 10. (New section) Upon the request of a customer, the Passaic
17 Valley Sewerage Commissioners may:

18 a. offer the customer the ability to receive or access, in
19 electronic format, any periodic bill for service sent by such
20 commissioners to their customers and any additional information
21 sent by the commissioners to their customers as required by law,
22 provided that any notice of disconnection, discontinuance or
23 termination of water service shall be sent to a customer in written
24 form at the customer's legal mailing address in addition to being
25 sent or being made available in electronic format; and

26 b. provide the customer the option of paying any such periodic
27 bill of the commissioners via electronic means.

28
29 11. This act shall take effect on the 180th day after the date of
30 enactment, but such public provider of services affected by this act
31 may take such anticipatory administrative action in advance thereof
32 as shall be necessary for the implementation of this act.

33

34

35

STATEMENT

36

37 This bill permits any public provider of water, sewerage or
38 electric services to: 1) offer, upon the request of a customer, the
39 ability to receive in electronic format any periodic bill for service
40 sent by such provider to its customers and any additional
41 information sent by the provider to its customers as required by
42 law; and 2) provide the customer of such provider the option of
43 paying any such periodic bill via electronic means.

44 The bill also clarifies that any notice of disconnection,
45 discontinuance or termination of utility service by the provider shall
46 continue to be sent by regular mail to a customer's legal mailing
47 address in addition to being sent by electronic notice.

A911 CHIVUKULA, COUTINHO

13

1 The entities to which the bill applies are: sewerage authorities;
2 utilities authorities; municipalities providing light, heat or power;
3 municipalities establishing water districts; water commissions;
4 counties and municipalities operating water or sewerage service
5 facilities; the New Jersey Water Supply Authority; district water
6 supply commissions; and the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission.