

2022 -- H 7529

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

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A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- REGULATORY POWERS OF  
ADMINISTRATION

Introduced By: Representatives Morales, Slater, Vella-Wilkinson, J Lombardi, Williams,  
Caldwell, Tanzi, Azzinaro, Bennett, and Giraldo

Date Introduced: February 18, 2022

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 39-3 of the General Laws entitled "Regulatory Powers of  
2 Administration" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3           **39-3-45. Limitation on rate increases for gas.**

4           (a) Notwithstanding any provisions of the general laws to the contrary, any increase in rates  
5 proposed to be charged by a gas distribution company shall be equal to the lesser of five and one-  
6 half percent (5.5%) per year, or the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban  
7 Consumers (CPI-U) as published by the U.S. Department of Labor Statistics determined as of  
8 September 30 of the prior calendar year, unless the increase shall have been previously approved  
9 by affirmative action of the general assembly.

10           (b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any gas distribution company having  
11 fewer than seven thousand five hundred (7,500) gas customer accounts.

12           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

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ADMINISTRATION

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1           This act would limit a rate increase by any gas distribution company to the lesser of five  
2 and one-half percent (5.5%) annually or the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for  
3 all Urban Consumers (CPI-U).

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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