HOUSE BILL NO. 4974

September 17, 2025, Introduced by Reps. Morgan, McKinney, Grant, B. Carter, Miller, Byrnes, Wegela, McFall, Hoskins, Wooden, Price, Cavitt, Wilson, Myers-Phillips, Longjohn, Rheingans, Hope, T. Carter and Young and referred to Committee on Energy.

A bill to amend 1939 PA 3, entitled

"An act to provide for the regulation and control of public and certain private utilities and other services affected with a public interest within this state; to provide for alternative energy suppliers; to provide for licensing; to include municipally owned utilities and other providers of energy under certain provisions of this act; to create a public service commission and to prescribe and define its powers and duties; to abolish the Michigan public utilities commission and to confer the powers and duties vested by law on the public service commission; to provide for the powers and duties of certain state governmental officers and entities; to provide for the continuance, transfer, and completion of certain matters and proceedings; to abolish automatic adjustment clauses;

to prohibit certain rate increases without notice and hearing; to qualify residential energy conservation programs permitted under state law for certain federal exemption; to create a fund; to encourage the utilization of resource recovery facilities; to prohibit certain acts and practices of providers of energy; to allow for the securitization of stranded costs; to reduce rates; to provide for appeals; to provide appropriations; to declare the effect and purpose of this act; to prescribe remedies and penalties; and to repeal acts and parts of acts,"

(MCL 460.1 to 460.11) by adding section 9f.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 9f. (1) An electric utility shall do all of the following 2 when a service interruption occurs:
- 3 (a) Reimburse an individual whose utilities are paid for by
 4 their landlord and whose service was interrupted for more than 4
 5 but not more than 24 hours, \$50.00 or the cost of spoiled food,
 6 lodging, or other costs the individual incurred because of the
 7 service interruption, whichever is larger.
- 8 (b) Reimburse an individual whose utilities are paid for by
 9 their landlord and whose service was interrupted for more than 24
 10 hours, \$200.00 or the cost of spoiled food, lodging, or other costs
 11 the individual incurred because of the service interruption,
 12 whichever is larger.
- 13 (c) Reimburse a local unit of government for any costs that
 14 the local unit of government incurred because of the service
 15 interruption, including, but not limited to, all of the following:
- 16 (i) The cost required to dispatch emergency services during the 17 service interruption.
- 18 (ii) The cost required to operate warming or cooling centers 19 due to unsafe weather during the service interruption.
- 20 (iii) The cost of operating backup generation during the service 21 interruption.

- 1 (iv) Other costs incurred to respond to and mitigate the 2 harmful effects of the service interruption.
- 3 (2) An individual or local unit of government that seeks
- 4 reimbursement under this section shall submit its account of actual
- 5 costs to the commission not later than 90 days after the date of
- 6 the service interruption. The commission shall examine the account
- 7 and determine what costs the utility shall reimburse. Not later
- 8 than 30 days after the commission determines what actual costs the
- 9 utility shall reimburse, the utility shall pay the amount to the
- 10 individual or the local unit of government.
- 11 (3) This section is in addition to any other remedy provided
- 12 by law.
- 13 (4) As used in this section:
- 14 (a) "Emergency services" means services provided to the public
- 15 by police, fire, ambulance, or other first responders.
- 16 (b) "Service interruption" means a full or partial loss of
- 17 electric service.