

HB 381 - AS INTRODUCED

2023 SESSION

23-0670

10/08

HOUSE BILL                **381**

AN ACT                    relative to the system benefits charge.

SPONSORS:                Rep. Harrington, Straf. 18

COMMITTEE:               Science, Technology and Energy

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ANALYSIS

This bill provides that system benefits charge and local distribution adjustment charge funding levels may only be increased by passage of legislation or authorization by the fiscal committee of the general court.

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Explanation:               Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
                                 Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough]~~  
                                 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three*

AN ACT relative to the system benefits charge.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1       1 Electric Utilities; System benefits Charge; Rate. Amend RSA 374-F:3, VI-a(d)(2) to read as  
2 follows:

3               (2) System benefits charge and local distribution adjustment charge funding levels.  
4 For the year 2022 ***and thereafter***, the energy efficiency portion of the system benefits charge shall  
5 be set at the level for 2020 authorized in Order No. 26,323 dated December 31, 2019. The energy  
6 efficiency portion of the local distribution adjustment charge shall be set at the level for 2020  
7 authorized in Order No. 26,306 dated October 31, 2019, for Liberty Utilities (Energy North Natural  
8 Gas) Corp. and in Order No. 26,303 dated October 29, 2019, for Northern Utilities, Inc. ~~[The energy~~  
9 ~~efficiency portion of the system benefits charge and local distribution adjustment charges shall~~  
10 ~~adjust annually beginning January 1, 2023, and shall be calculated using the most recently available~~  
11 ~~3-year average of the consumer price index (CPI-W) as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of~~  
12 ~~the United States Department of Labor plus 0.25 percent all as calculated by the department of~~  
13 ~~energy. Utilities subject to commission rate regulation shall submit tariff amendments altering~~  
14 ~~solely the system benefits charge and local distribution adjustment charge as described, reconciled~~  
15 ~~for over and under collections already occurred, as soon after the effective date of this subparagraph~~  
16 ~~as possible, and every December 1 for the upcoming year thereafter].~~ ***Prior approval by either the***  
17 ***passage of legislation by the New Hampshire general court or authorization by the fiscal***  
18 ***committee of the general court shall be required to increase the system benefits charge and***  
19 ***local distribution adjustment charge funding levels.***

20       2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.