

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7066

To amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to add a standard relating to the consideration of large load facilities as a class of electric consumers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 14, 2026

Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. LATIMER, Mr. CASTEN, and Ms. PINGREE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to add a standard relating to the consideration of large load facilities as a class of electric consumers, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Stopping Hikes In
5 Electricity from Large Load Demands Act” or the
6 “SHIELD Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PURPA STANDARDS FOR LARGE LOAD FACILITIES.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 111(d) of the Public Util-
3 ity Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2621(d))
4 is amended by adding at the end the following:

5 “(22) LARGE LOAD FACILITY CLASS.—

6 “(A) CLASSIFICATION.—Large load facili-
7 ties shall be considered a class of electric con-
8 sumers.

9 “(B) COST RECOVERY RELATING TO
10 LARGE LOAD FACILITY CLASS.—Each electric
11 utility that provides electric service to a class of
12 electric consumers described in subparagraph
13 (A) shall fully recover from such class all costs
14 associated with any upgrade made to the gen-
15 eration, transmission, or distribution facilities
16 of the electric grid, including local facilities, in
17 order to meet the demand for electric energy
18 from such class, including in the event that a
19 large load facility ceases operations or uses less
20 electric energy than projected at the time of
21 such upgrade.

22 “(23) GRID RELIABILITY FOR LARGE LOAD FA-
23 CILITIES.—Each electric utility shall prioritize,
24 among requests from owners or operators of large
25 load facilities for electric service, such a request

1 under which the owner or operator agrees to em-
 2 ploy—

3 “(A) features that reduce the demand for
 4 electric energy from the electric grid during
 5 times of peak demand, including—

6 “(i) energy efficiency or energy con-
 7 servation measures;

8 “(ii) onsite energy storage; or

9 “(iii) demand response or load flexi-
 10 bility technologies; and

11 “(B) zero-emission electric energy gen-
 12 erated onsite or procured within the same bal-
 13 ancing authority through a power purchase
 14 agreement to meet all of the demand of the
 15 large load facility for electric energy.”.

16 (b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 111 of the Public Utility
 17 Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2621) is
 18 amended by adding at the end the following:

19 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of subsection
 20 (d):

21 “(1) LARGE LOAD FACILITY.—The term ‘large
 22 load facility’—

23 “(A) means a facility, or an aggregation of
 24 facilities at a single site, with respect to which

the peak demand of such facility or such aggregation of facilities exceeds 75 megawatts; and

“(B) does not include an existing facility with respect to which any increased demand is predominantly caused by electrification or measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

“(2) ZERO-EMISSION ELECTRIC ENERGY.—The term ‘zero-emission electric energy’ means electric energy generated without emitting greenhouse gases, including from solar, wind, geothermal, hydroelectric, tidal, fission, or fusion.”.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) OBLIGATIONS TO CONSIDER AND DETERMINE.—Section 112 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2622) is amended—

(A) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the following:

“(9)(A) Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this paragraph, each State regulatory authority (with respect to each electric utility for which the State has ratemaking authority) and each nonregulated utility shall commence consideration under section 111, or set a hearing date for consideration, with respect to each standard established by paragraphs (22) and (23) of section 111(d).

1 “(B) Not later than 2 years after the date of
2 enactment of this paragraph, each State regulatory
3 authority (with respect to each electric utility for
4 which the State has ratemaking authority), and each
5 nonregulated electric utility shall complete the con-
6 sideration and make the determination under section
7 111 with respect to each standard established by
8 paragraphs (22) and (23) of section 111(d).

9 “(C) Not later than 30 days after completing
10 the consideration and making a determination under
11 section 111 with respect to each standard estab-
12 lished by paragraphs (22) and (23) of section
13 111(d), each State regulatory authority (with re-
14 spect to each electric utility for which the State has
15 ratemaking authority), and each nonregulated elec-
16 tric utility shall submit to the Committee on Energy
17 and Commerce of the House of Representatives and
18 the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of
19 the Senate a report detailing the process used for
20 consideration and an explanation for the determina-
21 tion.”;

22 (B) in subsection (c)—

23 (i) by striking “subsection (b)(2)” and
24 inserting “subsection (b)”; and

1 (ii) by inserting “In the case of the
2 standard established by paragraphs (22)
3 and (23) of section 111(d), the reference
4 contained in this subsection to the date of
5 enactment of this Act shall be deemed to
6 be a reference to the date of enactment of
7 such paragraphs (22) and (23).” after
8 “paragraph (21).”; and

9 (C) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(i) OTHER PRIOR STATE ACTIONS.—Subsections
11 (b) and (c) shall not apply to the standards established
12 by paragraphs (22) and (23) of section 111(d) in the case
13 of any electric utility in a State if, before the date of enact-
14 ment of this subsection—

15 “(1) the State has implemented for the electric
16 utility the standard concerned (or a comparable
17 standard);

18 “(2) the State regulatory authority for the
19 State or the relevant nonregulated electric utility has
20 conducted a proceeding to consider implementation
21 of the standard concerned (or a comparable stand-
22 ard) for the electric utility; or

23 “(3) the State legislature has voted on the im-
24 plementation of the standard concerned (or a com-

1 parable standard) for the electric utility during the
2 3-year period ending on that date of enactment.”.

3 (2) PRIOR AND PENDING PROCEEDINGS.—Sec-
4 tion 124 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies
5 Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2634) is amended by insert-
6 ing “In the case of each standard established by
7 paragraphs (22) and (23) of section 111(d), the ref-
8 erence contained in this section to the date of enact-
9 ment of this Act shall be deemed to be a reference
10 to the date of enactment of such paragraphs (22)
11 and (23).” after “paragraph (21).”.

○