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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SIXTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. **602**

February 9, 2009

Authored by Beard

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Energy Finance and Policy Division

March 9, 2009

Committee Recommendation and Adoption of Report:

To Pass as Amended

Read Second Time

March 19, 2009

Calendar For The Day

Amended

Read Third Time as Amended

Passed by the House as Amended and transmitted to the Senate to include Floor Amendments

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to utilities; modifying provisions for recording proceedings of the Public
1.3 Utilities Commission; making technical corrections regarding the cold weather
1.4 rule; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, sections 216A.03, subdivision 6, by
1.5 adding a subdivision; 216C.11.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 216A.03, subdivision 6, is amended to
1.8 read:

1.9 Subd. 6. **Record of proceedings.** An audio magnetic or audio electronic recording
1.10 device shall be used to keep a record of all proceedings before the commission ~~unless the~~
1.11 ~~commission provides a hearing reporter to record the proceeding.~~

1.12 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 216A.03, is amended by adding a subdivision
1.13 to read:

1.14 Subd. 6a. **Hearing reporter.** A magnetically or electronically recorded record is
1.15 not required if the commission requires a hearing reporter to record the proceeding. The
1.16 commission may delegate to the executive secretary authority to require hearing reporter
1.17 services. The cost of hearing reporter services thus required must be borne by the utility,
1.18 telephone company, or telecommunications carrier that is the subject of the proceeding.
1.19 If more than one company is the subject of a proceeding, the commission, or if the
1.20 commission so delegates the executive secretary, shall determine how the hearing reporter
1.21 costs are to be allocated for the proceeding.

2.1 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 216C.11, is amended to read:

2.2 **216C.11 ENERGY CONSERVATION INFORMATION CENTER.**

2.3 The commissioner shall establish an Energy Information Center in the department's
2.4 offices in St. Paul. The information center shall maintain a toll-free telephone information
2.5 service and disseminate printed materials on energy conservation topics, including but
2.6 not limited to, availability of loans and other public and private financing methods
2.7 for energy conservation physical improvements, the techniques and materials used to
2.8 conserve energy in buildings, including retrofitting or upgrading insulation and installing
2.9 weatherstripping, the projected prices and availability of different sources of energy,
2.10 and alternative sources of energy.

2.11 The Energy Information Center shall serve as the official Minnesota Alcohol Fuels
2.12 Information Center and shall disseminate information, printed, by the toll-free telephone
2.13 information service, or otherwise on the applicability and technology of alcohol fuels.

2.14 The information center shall include information on the potential hazards of energy
2.15 conservation techniques and improvements in the printed materials disseminated. The
2.16 commissioner shall not be liable for damages arising from the installation or operation of
2.17 equipment or materials recommended by the information center.

2.18 The information center shall use the information collected under section 216C.02,
2.19 subdivision 1, to maintain a central source of information on conservation and other
2.20 energy-related programs, including both programs required by law or rule and programs
2.21 developed and carried on voluntarily. In particular, the information center shall compile
2.22 and maintain information on policies covering disconnections or denials of fuel
2.23 during cold weather adopted by public utilities and other fuel suppliers not governed
2.24 by ~~Minnesota Rules, parts 7820.1500 to 7820.2300~~ section 216B.096 or 216B.097,
2.25 including the number of households disconnected or denied fuel and the duration of the
2.26 disconnections or denials.

2.27 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

2.28 Sec. 4. **REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

2.29 (a) The revisor of statutes shall replace the phrase "parts 7820.1500 to 7820.2300" in
2.30 Minnesota Rules, part 7826.0200, with the phrase "Minnesota Statutes, sections 216B.096
2.31 and 216B.097."

2.32 (b) The revisor of statutes shall replace the phrase "chapter 7820" in Minnesota
2.33 Rules, part 7826.1500, item B, with the phrase "Minnesota Statutes, sections 216B.096
2.34 and 216B.097."

3.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.