CHAPTER 1131

GAS OR ELECTRIC SERVICE DEPOSITS H.F. 2065

AN ACT limiting gas or electric service deposits.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. Section 476.20, subsection 5, Code Supplement 1983, is amended to read as follows:

- 5. The commerce commission shall establish rules which shall be uniform with respect to all public utilities furnishing gas or electricity relating to deposits which may be required by the public utility for the initiation or reinstatement of service.
- <u>a.</u> The deposit for a <u>residence</u> <u>residential</u> <u>or commercial</u> <u>customer</u> <u>for a place</u> which has previously received service shall not be greater than the highest billing of service for one month <u>to for</u> the <u>residence</u> <u>place</u> in the previous twelve-month period.
- b. The deposit for a residential or a commercial customer for a place which has not previously received service or for an industrial customer shall be the customer's projected one-month's usage for the place to be serviced as determined by the public utility according to rules established by the commerce commission.

PARAGRAPH DIVIDED. This subsection does not prohibit a public utility from requiring payment of a customer's past due account with the utility prior to reinstatement of service.

The rules shall allow a person other than the customer to pay the customer's deposit. Upon termination of service to such a customer, the deposit plus accumulated interest less any unpaid utility bill of the customer, shall be reimbursed to the person who made the deposit.

Approved April 23, 1984