

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2015 and 2016 SB2028

Introduced 3/11/2015, by Sen. Dan Duffy

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

220 ILCS 5/9-227

from Ch. 111 2/3, par. 9-227

Amends the Public Utilities Act. Prohibits the Illinois Commerce Commission from considering as an operating expense for the purpose of determining whether a rate or other charge or classification is sufficient donations made by a public utility for the public welfare or for charitable scientific, religious, or educational purposes unless the donations are determined by the Commission to be in the best interest of ratepayers. Requires that the donations be publicly disclosed to the Illinois Commerce Commission within 10 business days after a public utility makes such a donation, including the name and address of each recipient and the amount of each donation. Requires the Commission to make this information available on its website. Effective immediately.

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1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Public Utilities Act is amended by changing

Section 9-227 as follows:

6 (220 ILCS 5/9-227) (from Ch. 111 2/3, par. 9-227)

Sec. 9-227. It shall not be proper for the Commission to consider as an operating expense, for the purpose of determining whether a rate or other charge or classification is sufficient, donations made by a public utility for the public welfare or for charitable scientific, religious or educational purposes, unless provided that such donations are reasonable in amount and are determined by the Commission to be in the best interest of ratepayers. In determining the reasonableness of such donations, the Commission may not establish, by rule, a presumption that any particular portion of an otherwise reasonable amount may not be considered as an operating expense. The Commission shall disallow be prohibited from disallowing by rule, as an operating expense, any portion of a reasonable donation for public welfare or charitable purposes that is not in the best interest of ratepayers. Any such donation must be publicly disclosed to the Commission within 10 business days after a public utility makes such a donation,

- 1 <u>including the name and address of each recipient and the amount</u>
- of each donation. The Commission shall make this information
- 3 <u>available on its website.</u>
- 4 (Source: P.A. 85-122.)
- 5 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
- 6 becoming law.