

AN ACT concerning public aid.

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

Section 5. The Energy Assistance Act is amended by changing Sections 6, 13, and 18 and by adding Section 20 as follows:

(305 ILCS 20/6) (from Ch. 111 2/3, par. 1406)

Sec. 6. Eligibility, Conditions of Participation, and Energy Assistance.

(a) Any person who is a resident of the State of Illinois and whose household income is not greater than an amount determined annually by the Department, in consultation with the Policy Advisory Council, may apply for assistance pursuant to this Act in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Department. In setting the annual eligibility level, the Department shall consider the amount of available funding and may not set a limit higher than 150% of the federal nonfarm poverty level as established by the federal Office of Management and Budget or 60% of the State median income for the current State fiscal year as established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; except that for the period from the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 101st General Assembly through June 30, 2021, the Department

may establish limits not higher than 200% of that poverty level. The Department, in consultation with the Policy Advisory Council, may adjust the percentage of poverty level annually in accordance with federal guidelines and based on funding availability.

(b) Applicants who qualify for assistance pursuant to subsection (a) of this Section shall, subject to appropriation from the General Assembly and subject to availability of funds to the Department, receive energy assistance as provided by this Act. The Department, upon receipt of monies authorized pursuant to this Act for energy assistance, shall commit funds for each qualified applicant in an amount determined by the Department. In determining the amounts of assistance to be provided to or on behalf of a qualified applicant, the Department shall ensure that the highest amounts of assistance go to households with the greatest energy costs in relation to household income. The Department shall include factors such as energy costs, household size, household income, and region of the State when determining individual household benefits. In setting assistance levels, the Department shall attempt to provide assistance to approximately the same number of households who participated in the 1991 Residential Energy Assistance Partnership Program. Such assistance levels shall be adjusted annually on the basis of funding availability and energy costs. In promulgating rules for the administration of this Section the Department shall assure that a minimum of 1/3

of funds available for benefits to eligible households with the lowest incomes and that elderly households, households with children under the age of 6 years old, and households with persons with disabilities are offered a priority application period.

(c) If the applicant is not a customer of record of an energy provider for energy services or an applicant for such service, such applicant shall receive a direct energy assistance payment in an amount established by the Department for all such applicants under this Act; provided, however, that such an applicant must have rental expenses for housing greater than 30% of household income.

(c-1) This subsection shall apply only in cases where: (1) the applicant is not a customer of record of an energy provider because energy services are provided by the owner of the unit as a portion of the rent; (2) the applicant resides in housing subsidized or developed with funds provided under the Rental Housing Support Program Act or under a similar locally funded rent subsidy program, or is the voucher holder who resides in a rental unit within the State of Illinois and whose monthly rent is subsidized by the tenant-based Housing Choice Voucher Program under Section 8 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937; and (3) the rental expenses for housing are no more than 30% of household income. In such cases, the household may apply for an energy assistance payment under this Act and the owner of the housing unit shall cooperate with the applicant by

providing documentation of the energy costs for that unit. Any compensation paid to the energy provider who supplied energy services to the household shall be paid on behalf of the owner of the housing unit providing energy services to the household. The Department shall report annually to the General Assembly on the number of households receiving energy assistance under this subsection and the cost of such assistance. The provisions of this subsection (c-1), other than this sentence, are inoperative after August 31, 2012.

(d) If the applicant is a customer of an energy provider, such applicant shall receive energy assistance in an amount established by the Department for all such applicants under this Act, such amount to be paid by the Department to the energy provider supplying winter energy service to such applicant. Such applicant shall:

(i) make all reasonable efforts to apply to any other appropriate source of public energy assistance; and

(ii) sign a waiver permitting the Department to receive income information from any public or private agency providing income or energy assistance and from any employer, whether public or private.

(e) Any qualified applicant pursuant to this Section may receive or have paid on such applicant's behalf an emergency assistance payment to enable such applicant to obtain access to winter energy services. Any such payments shall be made in accordance with regulations of the Department.

(f) The Department may, if sufficient funds are available, provide additional benefits to certain qualified applicants:

(i) for the reduction of past due amounts owed to energy providers; and

(ii) to assist the household in responding to excessively high summer temperatures or energy costs. Households containing elderly members, children, a person with a disability, or a person with a medical need for conditioned air shall receive priority for receipt of such benefits.

(Source: P.A. 101-636, eff. 6-10-20.)

(305 ILCS 20/13)

(Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2025)

Sec. 13. Supplemental Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund.

(a) The Supplemental Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund is hereby created as a special fund in the State Treasury. The Supplemental Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund is authorized to receive moneys from voluntary donations from individuals, foundations, corporations, and other sources, moneys received pursuant to Section 17, and, by statutory deposit, the moneys collected pursuant to this Section. The Fund is also authorized to receive voluntary donations from individuals, foundations, corporations, and other sources. Subject to appropriation, the Department shall use moneys from the Supplemental Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund for payments to

electric or gas public utilities, municipal electric or gas utilities, and electric cooperatives on behalf of their customers who are participants in the program authorized by Sections 4 and 18 of this Act, for the provision of weatherization services and for administration of the Supplemental Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund. All other deposits outside of the Energy Assistance Charge as set forth in subsection (b) are not subject to the percentage restrictions related to administrative and weatherization expenses provided in this subsection. The yearly expenditures for weatherization may not exceed 10% of the amount collected during the year pursuant to this Section, except when unspent funds from the Supplemental Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund are reallocated from a previous year; any unspent balance of the 10% weatherization allowance may be utilized for weatherization expenses in the year they are reallocated. The yearly administrative expenses of the Supplemental Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund may not exceed 13% ~~10%~~ of the amount collected during that year pursuant to this Section, except when unspent funds from the Supplemental Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund are reallocated from a previous year; any unspent balance of the 13% ~~10%~~ administrative allowance may be utilized for administrative expenses in the year they are reallocated. Of the 13% administrative allowance, no less than 8% shall be provided to Local Administrative Agencies for administrative expenses.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 16-111 of the Public Utilities Act but subject to subsection (k) of this Section, each public utility, electric cooperative, as defined in Section 3.4 of the Electric Supplier Act, and municipal utility, as referenced in Section 3-105 of the Public Utilities Act, that is engaged in the delivery of electricity or the distribution of natural gas within the State of Illinois shall, effective January 1, 2022 ~~effective January 1, 1998~~, assess each of its customer accounts a monthly Energy Assistance Charge for the Supplemental Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund. The delivering public utility, municipal electric or gas utility, or electric or gas cooperative for a self-assessing purchaser remains subject to the collection of the fee imposed by this Section. The monthly charge shall be as follows:

(1) Base Energy Assistance Charge per month on each account for residential electrical service;

(2) Base Energy Assistance Charge per month on each account for residential gas service;

(3) Ten times the Base Energy Assistance Charge per month on each account for non-residential electric service which had less than 10 megawatts of peak demand during the previous calendar year;

(4) Ten times the Base Energy Assistance Charge per month on each account for non-residential gas service which had distributed to it less than 4,000,000 therms of

gas during the previous calendar year;

(5) Three hundred and seventy-five times the Base Energy Assistance Charge per month on each account for non-residential electric service which had 10 megawatts or greater of peak demand during the previous calendar year;  
and

(6) Three hundred and seventy-five times the Base Energy Assistance Charge per month on each account for non-residential gas service which had 4,000,000 or more therms of gas distributed to it during the previous calendar year.

The Base Energy Assistance Charge shall be \$0.48 per month for the calendar year beginning January 1, 2022 and shall increase by \$0.16 per month for any calendar year, provided no less than 80% of the previous State fiscal year's available Supplemental Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund funding was exhausted. The maximum Base Energy Assistance Charge shall not exceed \$0.96 per month for any calendar year.

~~(1) \$0.48 per month on each account for residential electric service;~~

~~(2) \$0.48 per month on each account for residential gas service;~~

~~(3) \$4.80 per month on each account for non-residential electric service which had less than 10 megawatts of peak demand during the previous calendar year;~~



~~(4) \$4.80 per month on each account for non-residential gas service which had distributed to it less than 4,000,000 therms of gas during the previous calendar year;~~

~~(5) \$360 per month on each account for non residential electric service which had 10 megawatts or greater of peak demand during the previous calendar year; and~~

~~(6) \$360 per month on each account for non residential gas service which had 4,000,000 or more therms of gas distributed to it during the previous calendar year.~~

The incremental change to such charges imposed by Public Act 99-933 and this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly ~~this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly~~ shall not (i) be used for any purpose other than to directly assist customers and (ii) be applicable to utilities serving less than 25,000 ~~100,000~~ customers in Illinois on January 1, 2021 ~~2009~~. The incremental change to such charges imposed by this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly are intended to increase utilization of the Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP or PIP Plan) and shall be applied such that PIP Plan enrollment is at least doubled, as compared to 2020 enrollment, by 2024.

In addition, electric and gas utilities have committed, and shall contribute, a one-time payment of \$22 million to the Fund, within 10 days after the effective date of the tariffs established pursuant to Sections 16-111.8 and 19-145 of the

Public Utilities Act to be used for the Department's cost of implementing the programs described in Section 18 of this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly, the Arrearage Reduction Program described in Section 18, and the programs described in Section 8-105 of the Public Utilities Act. If a utility elects not to file a rider within 90 days after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly, then the contribution from such utility shall be made no later than February 1, 2010.

(c) For purposes of this Section:

(1) "residential electric service" means electric utility service for household purposes delivered to a dwelling of 2 or fewer units which is billed under a residential rate, or electric utility service for household purposes delivered to a dwelling unit or units which is billed under a residential rate and is registered by a separate meter for each dwelling unit;

(2) "residential gas service" means gas utility service for household purposes distributed to a dwelling of 2 or fewer units which is billed under a residential rate, or gas utility service for household purposes distributed to a dwelling unit or units which is billed under a residential rate and is registered by a separate meter for each dwelling unit;

(3) "non-residential electric service" means electric utility service which is not residential electric service;

and

(4) "non-residential gas service" means gas utility service which is not residential gas service.

(d) Within 30 days after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly, each public utility engaged in the delivery of electricity or the distribution of natural gas shall file with the Illinois Commerce Commission tariffs incorporating the Energy Assistance Charge in other charges stated in such tariffs, which shall become effective no later than the beginning of the first billing cycle following such filing.

(e) The Energy Assistance Charge assessed by electric and gas public utilities shall be considered a charge for public utility service.

(f) By the 20th day of the month following the month in which the charges imposed by the Section were collected, each public utility, municipal utility, and electric cooperative shall remit to the Department of Revenue all moneys received as payment of the Energy Assistance Charge on a return prescribed and furnished by the Department of Revenue showing such information as the Department of Revenue may reasonably require; provided, however, that a utility offering an Arrearage Reduction Program or Supplemental Arrearage Reduction Program pursuant to Section 18 of this Act shall be entitled to net those amounts necessary to fund and recover the costs of such Programs as authorized by that Section that

is no more than the incremental change in such Energy Assistance Charge authorized by Public Act 96-33. If a customer makes a partial payment, a public utility, municipal utility, or electric cooperative may elect either: (i) to apply such partial payments first to amounts owed to the utility or cooperative for its services and then to payment for the Energy Assistance Charge or (ii) to apply such partial payments on a pro-rata basis between amounts owed to the utility or cooperative for its services and to payment for the Energy Assistance Charge.

If any payment provided for in this Section exceeds the distributor's liabilities under this Act, as shown on an original return, the Department may authorize the distributor to credit such excess payment against liability subsequently to be remitted to the Department under this Act, in accordance with reasonable rules adopted by the Department. If the Department subsequently determines that all or any part of the credit taken was not actually due to the distributor, the distributor's discount shall be reduced by an amount equal to the difference between the discount as applied to the credit taken and that actually due, and that distributor shall be liable for penalties and interest on such difference.

(g) The Department of Revenue shall deposit into the Supplemental Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund all moneys remitted to it in accordance with subsection (f) of this Section.  ~~; provided, however, that the amounts remitted by~~

~~each utility shall be used to provide assistance to that utility's customers.~~ The utilities shall coordinate with the Department to establish an equitable and practical methodology for implementing this subsection (g) beginning with the 2010 program year.

(h) On or before December 31, 2002, the Department shall prepare a report for the General Assembly on the expenditure of funds appropriated from the Low-Income Energy Assistance Block Grant Fund for the program authorized under Section 4 of this Act.

(i) The Department of Revenue may establish such rules as it deems necessary to implement this Section.

(j) The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity may establish such rules as it deems necessary to implement this Section.

(k) The charges imposed by this Section shall only apply to customers of municipal electric or gas utilities and electric or gas cooperatives if the municipal electric or gas utility or electric or gas cooperative makes an affirmative decision to impose the charge. If a municipal electric or gas utility or an electric cooperative makes an affirmative decision to impose the charge provided by this Section, the municipal electric or gas utility or electric cooperative shall inform the Department of Revenue in writing of such decision when it begins to impose the charge. If a municipal electric or gas utility or electric or gas cooperative does

not assess this charge, the Department may not use funds from the Supplemental Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund to provide benefits to its customers under the program authorized by Section 4 of this Act.

In its use of federal funds under this Act, the Department may not cause a disproportionate share of those federal funds to benefit customers of systems which do not assess the charge provided by this Section.

This Section is repealed on January 1, 2025 unless renewed by action of the General Assembly.

(Source: P.A. 99-457, eff. 1-1-16; 99-906, eff. 6-1-17; 99-933, eff. 1-27-17; 100-863, eff. 8-14-18; 100-1171, eff. 1-4-19.)

(305 ILCS 20/18)

Sec. 18. Financial assistance; payment plans.

(a) The Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP or PIP Plan) is hereby created as a mandatory bill payment assistance program for low-income residential customers of utilities serving more than 100,000 retail customers as of January 1, 2021 ~~2009~~. The PIP Plan will:

(1) bring participants' gas and electric bills into the range of affordability;

(2) provide incentives for participants to make timely payments;

(3) encourage participants to reduce usage and

participate in conservation and energy efficiency measures that reduce the customer's bill and payment requirements; ~~and~~

(4) identify participants whose homes are most in need of weatherization; and -

(5) endeavor to maximize participation and spend at least 80% of the funding available for the year.

(b) For purposes of this Section:

(1) "LIHEAP" means the energy assistance program established under the Illinois Energy Assistance Act and the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981.

(2) "Plan participant" is an eligible participant who is also eligible for the PIPP and who will receive either a percentage of income payment credit under the PIPP criteria set forth in this Act or a benefit pursuant to Section 4 of this Act. Plan participants are a subset of eligible participants.

(3) "Pre-program arrears" means the amount a plan participant owes for gas or electric service at the time the participant is determined to be eligible for the PIPP or the program set forth in Section 4 of this Act.

(4) "Eligible participant" means any person who has applied for, been accepted and is receiving residential service from a gas or electric utility and who is also eligible for LIHEAP or otherwise satisfies the eligibility criteria set forth in paragraph (1) of subsection (c).

(c) The PIP Plan shall be administered as follows:

(1) The Department shall coordinate with Local Administrative Agencies (LAAs), to determine eligibility for the Illinois Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) pursuant to the Energy Assistance Act, provided that eligible income shall be no more than 150% of the poverty level or 60% of the State median income, except that for the period from the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 101st General Assembly through June 30, 2021, eligible income shall be no more than 200% of the poverty level. Applicants will be screened to determine whether the applicant's projected payments for electric service or natural gas service over a 12-month period exceed the criteria established in this Section. The Department, in consultation with the Policy Advisory Council, may adjust the percentage of poverty level annually to determine income eligibility. To maintain the financial integrity of the program, the Department may limit eligibility to households with income below 125% of the poverty level.

(2) The Department shall establish the percentage of income formula to determine the amount of a monthly credit for participants with eligible income based on poverty level. ~~, not to exceed \$150 per month per household, not to exceed \$1,800 annually; however, for the period from the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 101st General~~



~~Assembly through June 30, 2021, the monthly credit for participants with eligible income over 100% of the poverty level may be as much as \$200 per month per household, not to exceed \$2,400 annually, and, the monthly credit for participants with eligible income 100% or less of the poverty level may be as much as \$250 per month per household, not to exceed \$3,000 annually.~~ Credits will be applied to PIP Plan participants' utility bills based on the portion of the bill that is the responsibility of the participant provided that the percentage shall be no more than a total of 6% of the relevant income for gas and electric utility bills combined, but in any event no less than \$10 per month, unless the household does not pay directly for heat, in which case its payment shall be 2.4% of income but in any event no less than \$5 per month. The Department, in consultation with the Policy Advisory Council, may adjust such monthly credit amounts annually and may establish a minimum credit amount based on the cost of administering the program and may deny credits to otherwise eligible participants if the cost of administering the credit exceeds the actual amount of any monthly credit to a participant. If the participant takes both gas and electric service, 50% ~~66.67%~~ of the credit shall be allocated to the entity that provides the participant's primary energy supply for heating. Each participant shall enter into a levelized payment plan for,

as applicable, gas and electric service and such plans shall be implemented by the utility so that a participant's usage and required payments are reviewed and adjusted regularly, but no more frequently than quarterly. Nothing in this Section is intended to prohibit a customer, who is otherwise eligible for LIHEAP, from participating in the program described in Section 4 of this Act. Eligible participants who receive such a benefit shall be considered plan participants and shall be eligible to participate in the Arrearage Reduction Program described in item (5) of this subsection (c).

(3) The Department shall remit, through the LAAs, to the utility or participating alternative supplier that portion of the plan participant's bill that is not the responsibility of the participant. In the event that the Department fails to timely remit payment to the utility, the utility shall be entitled to recover all costs related to such nonpayment through the automatic adjustment clause tariffs established pursuant to Section 16-111.8 and Section 19-145 of the Public Utilities Act. For purposes of this item (3) of this subsection (c), payment is due on the date specified on the participant's bill. The Department, the Department of Revenue and LAAs shall adopt processes that provide for the timely payment required by this item (3) of this subsection (c).

(4) A plan participant is responsible for all actual

charges for utility service in excess of the PIPP credit. Pre-program arrears that are included in the Arrearage Reduction Program described in item (5) of this subsection (c) shall not be included in the calculation of the levelized payment plan. Emergency or crisis assistance payments shall not affect the amount of any PIPP credit to which a participant is entitled.

(5) Electric and gas utilities subject to this Section shall implement an Arrearage Reduction Program (ARP) for plan participants as follows: for each month that a plan participant timely pays his or her utility bill, the utility shall apply a credit to a portion of the participant's pre-program arrears, if any, equal to one-twelfth of such arrearage provided that the total amount of arrearage credits shall equal no more than \$1,000 annually for each participant for gas and no more than \$1,000 annually for each participant for electricity. In the third year of the PIPP, the Department, in consultation with the Policy Advisory Council established pursuant to Section 5 of this Act, shall determine by rule an appropriate per participant total cap on such amounts, if any. Those plan participants participating in the ARP shall not be subject to the imposition of any additional late payment fees on pre-program arrears covered by the ARP. In all other respects, the utility shall bill and collect the monthly bill of a plan participant pursuant to

the same rules, regulations, programs and policies as applicable to residential customers generally. Participation in the Arrearage Reduction Program shall be limited to the maximum amount of funds available as set forth in subsection (f) of Section 13 of this Act. In the event any donated funds under Section 13 of this Act are specifically designated for the purpose of funding the ARP, the Department shall remit such amounts to the utilities upon verification that such funds are needed to fund the ARP. Nothing in this Section shall preclude a utility from continuing to implement, and apply credits under, an ARP in the event that the PIPP or LIHEAP is suspended due to lack of funding such that the plan participant does not receive a benefit under either the PIPP or LIHEAP.

(5.5) In addition to the ARP described in paragraph (5) of this subsection (c), utilities may also implement a Supplemental Arrearage Reduction Program (SARP) for eligible participants who are not able to become plan participants due to PIPP timing or funding constraints. If a utility elects to implement a SARP, it shall be administered as follows: for each month that a SARP participant timely pays his or her utility bill, the utility shall apply a credit to a portion of the participant's pre-program arrears, if any, equal to one-twelfth of such arrearage, provided that the utility

may limit the total amount of arrearage credits to no more than \$1,000 annually for each participant for gas and no more than \$1,000 annually for each participant for electricity. SARP participants shall not be subject to the imposition of any additional late payment fees on pre-program arrears covered by the SARP. In all other respects, the utility shall bill and collect the monthly bill of a SARP participant under the same rules, regulations, programs, and policies as applicable to residential customers generally. Participation in the SARP shall be limited to the maximum amount of funds available as set forth in subsection (f) of Section 13 of this Act. In the event any donated funds under Section 13 of this Act are specifically designated for the purpose of funding the SARP, the Department shall remit such amounts to the utilities upon verification that such funds are needed to fund the SARP.

(6) The Department may terminate a plan participant's eligibility for the PIP Plan upon notification by the utility that the participant's monthly utility payment is more than 75 ~~45~~ days past due. One-twelfth of a customer's arrearage shall be deducted from the total arrearage owed for each on-time payment made by the customer.

(7) The Department, in consultation with the Policy Advisory Council, may adjust the number of PIP Plan participants annually, if necessary, to match the

availability of funds. Any plan participant who qualifies for a PIPP credit under a utility's PIPP shall be entitled to participate in and receive a credit under such utility's ARP for so long as such utility has ARP funds available, regardless of whether the customer's participation under another utility's PIPP or ARP has been curtailed or limited because of a lack of funds.

(8) The Department shall fully implement the PIPP at the earliest possible date it is able to effectively administer the PIPP. Within 90 days of the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly, the Department shall, in consultation with utility companies, participating alternative suppliers, LAAs and the Illinois Commerce Commission (Commission), issue a detailed implementation plan which shall include detailed testing protocols and analysis of the capacity for implementation by the LAAs and utilities. Such consultation process also shall address how to implement the PIPP in the most cost-effective and timely manner, and shall identify opportunities for relying on the expertise of utilities, LAAs and the Commission. Following the implementation of the testing protocols, the Department shall issue a written report on the feasibility of full or gradual implementation. The PIPP shall be fully implemented by September 1, 2011, but may be phased in prior to that date.

(9) As part of the screening process established under

item (1) of this subsection (c), the Department and LAAs shall assess whether any energy efficiency or demand response measures are available to the plan participant at no cost, and if so, the participant shall enroll in any such program for which he or she is eligible. The LAAs shall assist the participant in the applicable enrollment or application process.

(10) Each alternative retail electric and gas supplier serving residential customers shall elect whether to participate in the PIPP or ARP described in this Section. Any such supplier electing to participate in the PIPP shall provide to the Department such information as the Department may require, including, without limitation, information sufficient for the Department to determine the proportionate allocation of credits between the alternative supplier and the utility. If a utility in whose service territory an alternative supplier serves customers contributes money to the ARP fund which is not recovered from ratepayers, then an alternative supplier which participates in ARP in that utility's service territory shall also contribute to the ARP fund in an amount that is commensurate with the number of alternative supplier customers who elect to participate in the program.

(11) The PIPP shall be designed and implemented each year to maximize participation and spend at least 80% of

the funding available for the year.

(d) The Department, in consultation with the Policy Advisory Council, shall develop and implement a program to educate customers about the PIP Plan and about their rights and responsibilities under the percentage of income component. The Department, in consultation with the Policy Advisory Council, shall establish a process that LAAs shall use to contact customers in jeopardy of losing eligibility due to late payments. The Department shall ensure that LAAs are adequately funded to perform all necessary educational tasks.

(e) The PIPP shall be administered in a manner which ensures that credits to plan participants will not be counted as income or as a resource in other means-tested assistance programs for low-income households or otherwise result in the loss of federal or State assistance dollars for low-income households.

(f) In order to ensure that implementation costs are minimized, the Department and utilities shall work together to identify cost-effective ways to transfer information electronically and to employ available protocols that will minimize their respective administrative costs as follows:

(1) The Commission may require utilities to provide such information on customer usage and billing and payment information as required by the Department to implement the PIP Plan and to provide written notices and communications to plan participants.



(2) Each utility and participating alternative supplier shall file annual reports with the Department and the Commission that cumulatively summarize and update program information as required by the Commission's rules. The reports shall track implementation costs and contain such information as is necessary to evaluate the success of the PIPP.

(2.5) The Department shall annually prepare and submit a report to the General Assembly, the Commission, and the Policy Advisory Council that identifies the following amounts for the most recently completed year: total monies collected under subsection (b) of Section 13 of this Act for all PIPPs implemented in the State; monies allocated to each utility for implementation of its PIPP; and monies allocated to each utility for other purposes, including a description of each of those purposes. The Commission shall publish the report on its website.

(3) The Department and the Commission shall have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations necessary to execute and administer the provisions of this Section.

(g) Each utility shall be entitled to recover reasonable administrative and operational costs incurred to comply with this Section from the Supplemental Low Income Energy Assistance Fund. The utility may net such costs against monies it would otherwise remit to the Funds, and each utility shall include in the annual report required under subsection (f) of

this Section an accounting for the funds collected.

(Source: P.A. 101-636, eff. 6-10-20.)

(305 ILCS 20/20 new)

Sec. 20. Expanded eligibility. All programs pursuant to this Act shall be available to eligible low-income Illinois residents who qualify for assistance under Sections 6 and 18, regardless of immigration status, using the Supplemental Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund for customers of utilities and vendors that collect the Energy Assistance Charge and pay into the Supplemental Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund.