

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

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

4 Section 5. The Public Utilities Act is amended by adding
5 Section 8-201.6 as follows:

6 (220 ILCS 5/8-201.6 new)

7 Sec. 8-201.6. Deferral of deposit; victims of domestic
8 violence. For the purposes of this Section, "domestic violence"
9 means abuse by a family or household member, as "abuse" and
10 "family or household members" are defined in Section 103 of the
11 Illinois Domestic Violence Act of 1986.

12 A utility shall defer the utility's initial credit and
13 deposit requirements for a period of 60 days for a residential
14 customer or applicant who is a victim of domestic violence. To
15 be eligible for the deferral under this Section, the domestic
16 violence must (1) have been the basis for the issuance of an
17 order of protection or (2) be certified by treating medical
18 personnel, law enforcement personnel, a State's Attorney, the
19 Attorney General, or a domestic violence shelter. The
20 certification letter must be printed on the certifying entity's
21 letterhead or accompanied by a letter on the certifying
22 entity's letterhead that identifies the certifying individual.