

Assembly Bill No. 2509

CHAPTER 639

An act to add Chapter 5.5 (commencing with Section 2780) to Part 2 of Division 1 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to public utilities.

[Approved by Governor September 21, 2004. Filed with Secretary of State September 21, 2004.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2509, Nakanishi. Electric microuilities.

Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission generally has regulatory authority over public utilities, including authority over electrical corporations.

This bill would state the intent of the Legislature that the commission consider the legal, administrative, and operational costs that an electric microuility, as defined, faces if it is named as a respondent in a hearing generally applicable to electrical corporations. The bill would further state the intent of the Legislature that the commission consider those costs before naming an electric microuility as a respondent in a hearing generally applicable to electrical corporations.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 5.5 (commencing with Section 2780) is added to Part 2 of Division 1 of the Public Utilities Code, to read:

CHAPTER 5.5. ELECTRIC MICROUTILITIES

2780. As used in this chapter, the term "electric microuility" means any electrical corporation that is regulated by the commission and organized for the purpose of providing sole-source generation, distribution, and sale of electricity exclusively to a customer base of fewer than 2,000 customers.

2780.1. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the commission consider the legal, administrative, and operational costs that an electric microuility faces if it is named as a respondent in a hearing generally applicable to electrical corporations. The limited resources of a microuility are disproportionately strained by the cost of response.

(b) Further, it is the intent of the Legislature that the commission consider the costs described in subdivision (a) before naming an electric

microutility as a respondent in a hearing generally applicable to electrical corporations.

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