THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 628

Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY LAWRENCE, CIRESI, GILLEN, HANBIDGE, MOUL, SHUSTERMAN AND C. WILLIAMS, AUGUST 30, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION, TECHNOLOGY AND UTILITIES, AUGUST 30, 2023

AN ACT

Amending Title 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania 1 Consolidated Statutes, in rates and distribution systems, 2 further providing for valuation of acquired water and 3 wastewater systems. 5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 6 hereby enacts as follows: 7 Section 1. Section 1329(b)(3) of Title 66 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended to read: 8 § 1329. Valuation of acquired water and wastewater systems. * * * 10 11 (b) Utility valuation experts. --12 1.3 (3) Fees paid to utility valuation experts may be 14 included in the transaction and closing costs associated with 15 acquisition by the acquiring utility or entity. Fees eligible 16 for inclusion [may be of an amount not exceeding 5% of the fair market value of the selling utility or a fee approved by 17

the commission.] shall be based upon an hourly rate deemed

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- 1 <u>reasonable by the commission. A utility valuation expert</u>
- 2 <u>shall submit supporting documentation to the commission for</u>
- 3 each hour billed in a form determined by the commission. The
- 4 total fees due and the supporting documentation shall be
- 5 <u>subject to review and approval of the commission prior to</u>
- 6 <u>disbursal of the fees to a utility valuation expert. The</u>
- 7 <u>total billed amount by a utility valuation expert shall not</u>
- 8 <u>exceed 5% of the fair market value of the selling utility.</u>
- 9 * * *
- 10 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.