

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2025 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2848

By Delegates Young, Pushkin, and Lewis

[Introduced February 24, 2025; referred to the
Committee on Energy and Public Works]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new section,
 2 designated §24-2-17a, relating to requiring that utility providers instigate text
 3 communications concerning utility outages.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

§24-2-17a. Notification of utility outage.

1 (a) In addition to the expectations of §24-2-17, all public, private, and investor-owned
 2 utilities shall provide text notifications to customers when there is an outage either in progress or
 3 expected. This text shall contain the following information:

- 4 (1) That the service has been interrupted; and
- 5 (2) The estimated length of time, measured in 30-minute increments, that the service will
 6 be interrupted; and
- 7 (3) The areas affected by the outage using city, county, and state lines.

8 (b) This expectation shall become effective on July 1, 2025.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require that utility providers instigate text communications concerning utility outages.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.