

ASSEMBLY, No. 5463

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 17, 2025

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman ROBERT J. KARABINCHAK

District 18 (Middlesex)

Assemblywoman MELINDA KANE

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Assemblywoman GARNET R. HALL

District 28 (Essex and Union)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Miller, Stanley, Assemblywoman Reynolds-Jackson,

Assemblyman Freiman, Assemblywoman Lopez, Assemblyman Bailey,

Assemblywomen Donlon, Peterpaul and Ramirez

SYNOPSIS

Requires electric public utilities to submit annual report on voting to BPU.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/22/2025)

1 AN ACT concerning reporting requirements for electric public
2 utilities and supplementing Title 48 of the Revised Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. a. As used in this section:

8 “Affiliate” means any individual or entity that directly or
9 indirectly controls, is under common control with, or is controlled
10 by an electric public utility.

11 “Board” means the Board of Public Utilities.

12 “Electric public utility” means a public utility, as that term is
13 defined in R.S.48:2-13, that transmits and distributes electricity to
14 end users within the State.

15 “Meeting” means a meeting of any committee, user group, task
16 force, or other similar body of PJM.

17 “PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.” or “PJM” means the same as the
18 term is defined in section 3 of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-51).

19 “Recorded vote” means a vote that is tabulated, either
20 individually or as part of an industry sector, for any purpose at a
21 meeting, regardless of whether:

22 (1) the vote represents a final position of the entity casting the
23 vote; or

24 (2) the entity casting the vote possesses decision-making
25 authority.

26 “Recorded vote” includes proposals that were endorsed by
27 acclamation when the electric public utility was in attendance.

28 b. No later than February 1 of each year, an electric public
29 utility shall file with the board a report, in a form and manner
30 specified by the board, that:

31 (1) lists each recorded vote cast by the electric public utility,
32 and by any affiliate of the electric public utility, at a meeting of
33 PJM during the immediately preceding calendar year, regardless of
34 whether the vote is disclosed by PJM;

35 (2) includes a brief description of what transpired at the
36 meeting, including the purpose of the meeting, the meeting agenda,
37 if any, and what role the electric public utility, or its affiliate,
38 played at the meeting; and

39 (3) includes a brief description explaining whether each vote
40 identified under paragraph (1) of this subsection furthers the State’s
41 goals of prioritizing the affordability, reliability, and sustainability
42 of electricity production, consumption, and conservation and
43 furthers the purposes of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-49 et al.), P.L.2007,
44 c.340 (C.26:2C-45 et al.), and the “Global Warming Response Act,”
45 P.L.2007, c.112 (C.26:2C-37 et al.).

46 c. The board shall submit an annual report to the Governor and
47 to the Legislature, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164
48 (C.52:14-19.1), summarizing the information received pursuant to
49 subsection b. of this section.

1 d. The board shall adopt, pursuant to the “Administrative
2 Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), rules and
3 regulations as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this
4 section.

5
6 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
7

8
9 STATEMENT
10

11 This bill requires electric public utilities to file an annual report
12 on recorded votes at meetings of PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.
13 (PJM) to the Board of Public Utilities (board).

14 Under the bill, an electric public utility is required to file a report
15 no later than February 1 of each year, in a form and manner to be
16 specified by the board. The report is required to: (1) list each
17 recorded vote cast by the electric public utility, and by any affiliate
18 of the utility, at a meeting of PJM during the immediately preceding
19 calendar year, regardless of whether the vote is disclosed by PJM;
20 (2) include a brief description of what transpired at the meeting,
21 including the purpose of the meeting, the meeting agenda, if any,
22 and what role the electric public utility, or its affiliate, played at the
23 meeting; and (3) include a brief description explaining how each
24 vote that was cast furthers the State’s goals of prioritizing the
25 affordability, reliability, and sustainability of electricity production,
26 consumption, and conservation. The board is required to submit an
27 annual report to the Governor and to the Legislature summarizing
28 the information received from each electric public utility.

29 Under the bill, “meeting” is defined to include a meeting of any
30 committee, user group, task force, or other similar body of PJM. A
31 “recorded vote” is defined as a vote that is tabulated, either
32 individually or as part of an industry sector, for any purpose at a
33 meeting, regardless of whether: (1) the vote represents a final
34 position of the entity casting the vote; or (2) the entity casting the
35 vote possesses decision-making authority. “Recorded vote” also
36 includes proposals that were endorsed by acclamation when the
37 electric public utility was in attendance.

38 It is the sponsor’s intent that this bill will close current gaps in
39 accountability and increase public transparency concerning the
40 content of PJM meetings, including how meeting participants vote
41 on issues that utilize ratepayer dollars, by requiring electric public
42 utilities to file an annual report on recorded voting to the board. In
43 so far as electric public utilities are subject to oversight by the
44 board, it is within the board’s purview, and in the public interest, to
45 increase public accountability by making such voting records and
46 PJM meeting information a matter of public record.