

48:2-16.5
LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST
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LAWS OF: 2025 **CHAPTER:** 129

NJSA: 48:2-16.5 Requires electric public utilities to submit annual report on voting to BPU.

BILL NO: A5463 (Substituted for S4363 (1R))

SPONSOR(S) Karabinchak, Robert J. and others

DATE INTRODUCED: 3/17/2025

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** State & Local Government

SENATE: Economic Growth

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: 06/30/2025

SENATE: 06/30/2025

DATE OF APPROVAL: 8/15/2025

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (A5463 Sca (1R) enacted)

ADVANCE LAW Yes

PAMPHLET LAW Yes

A5463

INTRODUCED BILL: (Includes sponsor(s) statement) Yes

REPRINT(S): Yes SEG 6/12/25 1R

TECHNICAL REVIEW OF BILL: No

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** Yes

SENATE: Yes

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, ***may possibly*** be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

S4363 (1R)

INTRODUCED BILL: (Includes sponsor(s) statement) Yes

REPRINT(S): Yes SEG 6/12/25 1R

TECHNICAL REVIEW OF BILL: No

SENATE: Yes

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, ***may possibly*** be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: Yes

LEGISLATOR STATEMENT: Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or <mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org>

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: No

CL/MMcB

P.L. 2025, CHAPTER 129, *approved August 15, 2025*
Assembly, No. 5463 (*First Reprint*)

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 This term includes proposals that were endorsed by acclamation
27 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

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SEG committee amendments adopted June 12, 2025.

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

c. The board shall submit an annual report to the Governor and to the Legislature, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), summarizing the information received pursuant to subsection b. of this section ¹, accompanied by copies of each report filed by an electric public utility pursuant to subsection b. of this section¹.

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

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

CHAPTER 129

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

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

C.48:2-16.5 Electric public utilities, file report of meetings, votes; definitions.

1. a. As used in this section:

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

“Board” means the Board of Public Utilities.

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

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

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

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

the vote represents a final position of the entity casting the vote; or

the entity casting the vote possesses decision-making authority.

This term includes proposals that were endorsed by acclamation when the electric public utility was in attendance.

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

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

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

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

c. The board shall submit an annual report to the Governor and to the Legislature, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), summarizing the information received pursuant to subsection b. of this section, accompanied by copies of each report filed by an electric public utility pursuant to subsection b. of this section.

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

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved August 15, 2025.

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.

[First Reprint]

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)

Senator RAJ MUKHERJI

District 32 (Hudson)

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Miller, Stanley, Assemblywoman Reynolds-Jackson,

Assemblyman Freiman, Assemblywoman Lopez, Assemblyman Bailey,

Assemblywomen Donlon, Peterpaul, Ramirez, Senators Timberlake and

McKnight

SYNOPSIS

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

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Economic Growth Committee on June 12, 2025,
with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2025)

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).

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20 individually or as part of an industry sector, for any purpose at a
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25 authority.

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27 when the electric public utility was in attendance.

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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.).

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SEG committee amendments adopted June 12, 2025.

1 c. The board shall submit an annual report to the Governor and
2 to the Legislature, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164
3 (C.52:14-19.1), summarizing the information received pursuant to
4 subsection b. of this section ¹, accompanied by copies of each
5 report filed by an electric public utility pursuant to subsection b. of
6 this section¹.

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

11

12 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

ASSEMBLY STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 5463

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 15, 2025

The Assembly State and Local Government Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 5463.

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

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

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

It is the sponsor's intent that this bill will close current gaps in accountability and increase public transparency concerning the content of PJM meetings, including how meeting participants vote on issues that utilize ratepayer dollars, by requiring electric public utilities to file an annual report on recorded voting to the board. In so far as electric public utilities are subject to oversight by the board, it is within the board's purview, and in the public interest, to

increase public accountability by making such voting records and PJM meeting information a matter of public record.

SENATE ECONOMIC GROWTH COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 5463

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 12, 2025

The Senate Economic Growth Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 5463.

As amended and reported, this bill requires electric public utilities to file an annual report on recorded votes at meetings of PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. (PJM) to the Board of Public Utilities (board).

Pursuant to the bill, an electric public utility is required to file a report no later than February 1 of each year, in a form and manner to be specified by the board. The report is required to: (1) list each recorded vote cast by the electric public utility, and by any affiliate of the utility, at a meeting of PJM during the immediately preceding calendar year, regardless of whether the vote is disclosed by PJM; (2) include a brief description of what transpired at the meeting, including the purpose of the meeting, the meeting agenda, if any, and what role the electric public utility, or its affiliate, played at the meeting; and (3) include a brief description explaining whether each vote that was cast furthers the State's goals of prioritizing the affordability, reliability, and sustainability of electricity production, consumption, and conservation. The board is required to submit copies of the filed reports as well as an annual report summarizing the information received from each electric public utility to the Governor and to the Legislature.

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

As amended and reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 5463 is identical to Senate Bill No. 4363, which was also amended and reported by the committee on this date.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to require the board to provide to the Governor and to the Legislature, in addition to the annual report, copies of the reports filed with the board by each electric public utility.

SENATE, No. 4363

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 12, 2025

Sponsored by:
Senator RAJ MUKHERJI
District 32 (Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

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

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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.

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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:

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23 vote; or

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

26 This term includes proposals that were endorsed by acclamation
27 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

1 (C.52:14-19.1), summarizing the information received pursuant to
2 subsection b. of this section.

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

7
8 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

9
10
11 STATEMENT

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

16 Under the bill, an electric public utility is required to file a report
17 no later than February 1 of each year, in a form and manner to be
18 specified by the board. The report is required to: (1) list each
19 recorded vote cast by the electric public utility, and by any affiliate
20 of the utility, at a meeting of PJM during the immediately preceding
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24 and what role the electric public utility, or its affiliate, played at the
25 meeting; and (3) include a brief description explaining whether each
26 vote that was cast furthers the State’s goals of prioritizing the
27 affordability, reliability, and sustainability of electricity production,
28 consumption, and conservation. The board is required to submit an
29 annual report to the Governor and to the Legislature summarizing
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31 Under the bill, “meeting” is defined to include a meeting of any
32 committee, user group, task force, or other similar body of PJM. A
33 “recorded vote” is defined as a vote that is tabulated, either
34 individually or as part of an industry sector, for any purpose at a
35 meeting, regardless of whether: (1) the vote represents a final
36 position of the entity casting the vote; or (2) the entity casting the
37 vote possesses decision-making authority. “Recorded vote” also
38 includes proposals that were endorsed by acclamation when the
39 electric public utility was in attendance.

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

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 4363

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 12, 2025

Sponsored by:

Senator RAJ MUKHERJI

District 32 (Hudson)

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Timberlake and McKnight

SYNOPSIS

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

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Economic Growth Committee on June 12, 2025,
with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2025)

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:*

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7 1. a. As used in this section:

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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 ¹**【This term】** “Recorded vote”¹ includes proposals that were
27 endorsed by acclamation when the electric public utility was in
28 attendance.

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

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

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

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

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SEG committee amendments adopted June 12, 2025.

1 c.340 (C.26:2C-45 et al.), and the “Global Warming Response Act,”
2 P.L.2007, c.112 (C.26:2C-37 et al.).

3 c. The board shall submit an annual report to the Governor and
4 to the Legislature, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164
5 (C.52:14-19.1), summarizing the information received pursuant to
6 subsection b. of this section ¹, accompanied by copies of each
7 report filed by an electric public utility pursuant to subsection b. of
8 this section¹.

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

13

14 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

SENATE ECONOMIC GROWTH COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 4363

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 12, 2025

The Senate Economic Growth Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 4363.

As amended and reported, this bill requires electric public utilities to file an annual report on recorded votes at meetings of PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. (PJM) to the Board of Public Utilities (board).

Pursuant to the bill, an electric public utility is required to file a report no later than February 1 of each year, in a form and manner to be specified by the board. The report is required to: (1) list each recorded vote cast by the electric public utility, and by any affiliate of the utility, at a meeting of PJM during the immediately preceding calendar year, regardless of whether the vote is disclosed by PJM; (2) include a brief description of what transpired at the meeting, including the purpose of the meeting, the meeting agenda, if any, and what role the electric public utility, or its affiliate, played at the meeting; and (3) include a brief description explaining whether each vote that was cast furthers the State's goals of prioritizing the affordability, reliability, and sustainability of electricity production, consumption, and conservation. The board is required to submit copies of the filed reports as well as an annual report summarizing the information received from each electric public utility to the Governor and to the Legislature.

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

As amended and reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 4363 is identical to Assembly Bill No. 5463, which was also amended and reported by the committee on this date.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to require the board to provide to the Governor and to the Legislature, in addition to the annual report, copies of the reports filed with the board by each electric public utility.

Governor Murphy Signs Bills Increasing Accountability of Grid Operator PJM to Customers

Posted on - 08/15/2025

Bills Seek to Protect Ratepayers Amid Cost Crisis and Advance New Jersey's Clean Energy Goals

TRENTON – Governor Phil Murphy today signed into law [AJR216/SJR154](#) and [A5463/S4363](#), two bills designed to increase public accountability and transparency in decision-making by regional grid operator PJM Interconnection, LLC and its members as ratepayers in New Jersey and the region face an electricity cost crisis.

“These bills complement our long-term plan of action to hold PJM responsible for hardworking New Jerseyans’ skyrocketing electricity bills and a lack of new energy generation,” **said Governor Murphy**. “We are committed to creating a system that is fairer and more transparent for customers and the states that represent them – a necessary change from the opaque practices that have, for too long, defined PJM.”

AJR216/SJR154 cements New Jersey’s role on the forefront of coordinating with other PJM states to ensure PJM is serving ratepayers by utilizing a pricing model that serves the intended purpose of obtaining adequate resources at the lowest possible cost at its annual capacity market auction. Today’s legislation directs the Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to examine whether PJM’s Reliability Pricing Model is advancing that goal. BPU is also directed to continue advocating, along with other states, for reforms at PJM that will increase electricity supply, protect ratepayers, and prioritize clean energy generation. Under the law, the BPU will report the results of the investigation to the Governor and the Legislature within one year.

New Jersey, alongside other states, has sent multiple letters to the PJM Board of Managers since PJM’s June 2024 capacity market auction and has made multiple filings with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on how to improve PJM’s capacity market rules. New Jersey continues the work to vigorously incentivize the development of new generation sources in-state to meet the growing electricity demand, which is influenced by regional grid-wide factors.

“Affordability is always top of mind for us at the NJBPU,” **said Christine Guhl-Sadovy, President, NJBPU**. “While we continue to advocate at the regional level to address PJM’s flawed market rules and work to develop key programs and spur investment in new energy resources in-state, PJM must come to the table and demonstrate that the ratepayers of New Jersey, and throughout the region, are a priority. The lack of transparency in their regular business, coupled with more than a thousand clean energy projects stuck in their red-tape cannot continue. The recent, dramatic capacity auction price increases demonstrate that the status quo must change. It’s hurting ratepayers and it’s constraining energy jobs. Transparency is the first step toward accountability.”

“People are now learning what an important role PJM plays in setting the price for electricity in New Jersey. For

too long, PJM has operated behind the scenes, making significant decisions in various committees with no real understanding of who is actually making those decisions. Our electric companies are all part of larger organizations. It is important to ensure that when our electric companies are voting at PJM, they are doing so to benefit New Jersey customers and not the interests of their parent corporations. This law will allow the public to look behind the curtain, see how the process works, and hopefully ensure that our electric companies are voting in our interests. Likewise, it is always a good idea to look at what PJM is doing and ensure that it is still in the best interests of New Jersey,” **said Rate Counsel Director Brian Lipman**. “Rate Counsel welcomes this investigation to determine if PJM’s base residual auction is still working for New Jersey. Moreover, this is a multistate problem and will require a multistate solution. New Jersey, acting alone, cannot ensure equitable prices for PJM customers – we must continue to work with our neighbors to ensure we are all getting the best prices.”

PJM members, including electric public utility companies, vote on matters at PJM that impact ratepayers in New Jersey and across the regional grid. A5463/S4363 enhances transparency and accountability so that the public can understand how decisions made at PJM may impact electricity reliability, affordability, and sustainability – calling on electric public utilities and their affiliates operating in New Jersey to disclose details on their voting at PJM to the BPU annually. Under the law, those utilities and their affiliates will be required to report their recorded votes and explain how each vote furthers the State’s goals of prioritizing the affordability, reliability, and sustainability of electricity production, consumption, and conservation.

“This bill will ensure PJM voters take responsibility for their decisions, increasing the public’s confidence in the decisions being made,” **said Assemblyman Robert Karabinchak**. “New Jersey and the 12 other states who depend on PJM should have transparency from the over 500 people who are making these decisions. We should be able to know who made what vote and why without having to jump through hoops.”

“While electric bills skyrocket, PJM’s decision-makers have been setting our regional power grid policy in secret,” **said Senator Raj Mukherji**. “That ends today. With the enactment of the grid transparency law, consequential votes and decisions impacting what 65 million ratepayers pay and the timeline for approving clean energy projects in the pipeline will become public record. This is about sunlight, accountability, and putting consumers at the center of our energy policy.”

“The energy auction that is the principle cause for the spike in utility bills is clearly broken and in desperate need of reform,” **said Senator John Burzichelli**. “It failed to make consumer affordability a priority, put a chokehold on the energy supply line, and is susceptible to manipulation. This investigation is needed to identify the specific causes and determine the reforms needed to reduce costs and increase the supply of new energy. It will bring more accountability to the process and better protect ratepayers from unjustified utility bills.”

“We need to reexamine how PJM operates and ensure their priorities reflect the needs of the people they’re supposed to serve,” **said Assemblyman Dave Bailey, Jr.** “Energy bills affect every household and business, and with this resolution now law, we’re making sure New Jersey is fighting for lower costs. We are telling PJM loud and clear that our residents deserve a pricing system that works for them, not against them.”

Posted on: August 15, 2025

Karabinchak Bill to Help Protect Ratepayers Signed into Law

The legislation aims to close gaps in accountability and increase public transparency regarding PJM Interconnection

(TRENTON) — Assemblyman Robert Karabinchak's bill designed to increase transparency and accountability at PJM, including how meeting participants vote on issues that utilize ratepayer dollars, was signed into law today. Bill **A5463** aims to increase public accountability by making the voting records and PJM meeting information transparent to the residents of the State of New Jersey.



“Rising energy rates are simply unacceptable and Assembly Democrats continue to fight on behalf of the ratepayers to bring those costs down,” **said Assemblyman Karabinchak (D-Middlesex)**. “I’m proud to see Bill A5463 signed into law and I know that it will help ensure PJM members take responsibility for their decisions, increasing the public’s confidence in the decisions being made. This is an important benchmark in our efforts to address energy affordability.”

Under the bill, electric public utilities in New Jersey will be required to file an annual report to the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU), which, in addition to the vote records, will include a description of what transpired at the meeting, including the purpose of the meeting and the role the utility played in the meeting. Additionally, it will include a brief description explaining how each vote furthers the State’s goals of prioritizing the affordability, reliability, and sustainability of electricity production, as well as consumption and conservation.

Assemblywomen **Melinda Kane** and **Garnet Hall** also sponsored the legislation.

Underscoring his role as a leader in fighting to lower energy costs, Assemblyman Karabinchak testified at this week’s joint meeting of the Assembly Environment, Natural Resources, and Solid Waste Committee and the Senate Environment and Energy Committee. In addition to touching on PJM Interconnection’s failure to adequately address New Jersey’s energy needs, the hearing also included testimony about alternative energy sources.

Assemblyman Karabinchak spoke at the hearing about another one of his bills that is currently making its way through the Assembly. **A1478** aims to both establish New Jersey as a leader in ocean energy and diversify the State’s energy portfolio. Under the bill, the BPU would be required to solicit and approve an application for implementing a pilot wave and tidal project, which would be used to prepare a comprehensive study to evaluate the feasibility and benefits of using wave and tidal energy as forms of clean energy in the state.

“As we work to address energy affordability in the state, we must continue to explore alternative energy sources and this legislation would help us do that,” **said Assembly Karabinchak**. “New Jersey’s vast coastline gives us access to this valuable and abundant resource, and this study would help us determine how to best harness it to meet our clean energy goals.”

Assemblywomen Donlon and Peterpaul Announce 13 Bills Signed Into Law This Summer

TINTON FALLS - The Governor signed 13 of Assemblywoman Margie Donlon and Assemblywoman Luanne Peterpaul's bills into law this summer.

Either Assemblywoman Donlon or Assemblywoman Peterpaul, or both, and Senator Vin Gopal, (D-Monmouth) were the prime sponsors of four of the bills and cosponsors of the remaining nine.



"Many of these bills support small businesses and protect consumers. They reflect the concerns that Legislative District 11 residents tell us are important to them, such as utility costs, as we travel around the district talking to businesses and residents," said Assemblywoman Peterpaul.

The bills on which the Assemblywomen were primary sponsors include A5768, which requires the BPU to revise community solar program targets and directs the agency to open registration by October 1, 2025 for an additional 3,000 megawatts of community solar projects. Senator Gopal was a primary sponsor of the Senate version. Another of their bills, A5141, establishes an historic distillery license to allow the manufacturing and consumption of distilled alcoholic beverages on-and-off premises under certain circumstances by a licensee on the NJ Register of Historic Places. Senator Gopal also was a primary sponsor.

"Our sponsored bills also address healthcare concerns, which are a top priority for the LD11 office, and ensure healthcare insurance is more accessible and affordable," said Donlon, who is a physician and primary sponsor of A5810, which promotes equity in the health insurance appeal process. "This bill eliminates fees for appeals against health insurance carriers that deny, reduce, or terminate benefits."

Assemblywoman Donlon and Senator Gopal also were primary sponsors of A5199, a new law that requires eligible resident and fellow physicians employed by Rutgers University, including University Hospital, and their dependents, receive coverage in the State Health Benefits Plan (SHBP) on the first day of employment.

"This legislation corrects a situation that resulted in these healthcare professionals working in hospital environments, where they are exposed to diseases, infections and other dangers, but didn't have health coverage for a period of time," Gopal said.

The LD11 legislators also cosponsored nine other bills that became the law since June 30 of this year. These bills include:

[A5792](#) - Provides for workers' compensation coverage of certain counseling services for first responders and ensures that mental health-related communications are confidential.

[A5687](#) - Establishes the "Next New Jersey Manufacturing Program" to incentivize in-state manufacturing investments and job creation.

[A5466](#) - Requires the BPU to study the effects of data centers on electricity costs.

[A5463](#) - Requires electric public utilities to submit an annual report on voting to the BPU.

[A5447](#) - Prohibits the sweepstakes model of wagering; establishes new penalties for unlawful gambling operations and practices; directs Division of Consumer Affairs and Division of Gaming Enforcement to enforce penalties.

[S4567](#) - Appropriates \$107,999,000 from constitutionally dedicated Corporate Business Tax revenues and various Green Acres funds to the DEP to make grants to local governments for open space acquisition, park development, and planning projects.

[S4476](#) - Permits awarding of contracts for certain preschool education services by resolution of the board of education; extends the maximum length of preschool education services contracts to three years. Senator Gopal was a primary sponsor in the Senate.

[S3910](#) - Makes various changes to the provision of preschool aid and facilities requirements; establishes Universal Preschool Implementation Steering Committee; requires full-day kindergarten in all school districts.

[S3711](#) - Makes annual allocations of \$500,000 from the Clean Communities Program Fund for public outreach concerning single-use plastics reduction programs permanent.

Posted on: August 15, 2025

Mukherji, Turner Bill Mandating Power Grid Transparency for Ratepayers Signed Into Law

TRENTON – While New Jerseyans endure record-setting heat days and spiking electric bills, a bill sponsored by Senators Raj Mukherji and Shirley K. Turner was signed into law today that would require electric public utilities to publicly disclose – by filing an annual report to the Board of Public Utilities – their recorded votes at meetings of PJM Interconnection, which is the Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) that manages the power grid spanning 13 states (including New Jersey) and the District of Columbia. Bill S-4363 is designed to promote transparency and accountability for the benefit of ratepayers during decisive votes on energy and grid policy.



RTO's such as PJM are responsible for managing the energy capacity market, coordinating the movement of electricity through several states, maintenance of adequate reserves, and ensuring supply meets demand for electricity. It also determines where new power plants are built and the cost of electricity distributed through its transmission network. Their decisions also impact the deployment of clean energy, and PJM has been criticized for clean energy projects being stalled in the pipeline and by several states for lack of transparency in decision-making.

“While electric bills skyrocket, PJM’s decision-makers have been setting our regional power grid policy in secret,” said Senator Mukherji (D-Hudson). “That ends today. With the enactment of the grid transparency law, consequential votes and decisions impacting what 65 million ratepayers pay and the timeline for approving clean energy projects in the pipeline will become public record. This is about sunlight, accountability, and putting consumers at the center of our energy policy.”

Under the bill, the report would include not only each recorded vote, but also a brief description of each PJM meeting, including its purpose, agenda, and the role the utility or its affiliates played. It also aims to determine if each vote cast furthers the State’s goals of prioritizing the affordability, reliability, and sustainability of electricity production, consumption, and conservation. Several electric utilities in the State are registered as affiliate or voting members with PJM and, accordingly, can vote on major decisions regarding its activities.

New Jersey joins Maryland as only the second state to enact an RTO grid transparency law.

“Absolute transparency during these decisive votes is crucial for ensuring that electric utilities and PJM as a whole are working towards low costs and sustainability for consumers across New Jersey,” said Senator Turner (D-Hunterdon/Mercer). “This legislation is a critical step in helping to prevent further price hikes and in increasing accountability when decisions are made that directly impact our residents.”