

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2024 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **House Bill 4925**

By Delegate Young and Pushkin

[Introduced January 19, 2024; Referred to the  
Committee on Technology and Infrastructure]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto 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 of this code, all public, private, and investor-  
 2 owned utilities shall provide text notifications to customers when there is an outage either in  
 3 progress or 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, 2024.

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.