

HOUSE BILL 529: Utilities/Water and Wastewater Consumption.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee: House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the Date: April 10, 2019

House

Introduced by: Reps. Arp, Riddell, Conrad, Holley **Prepared by:** Kristen L. Harris

Analysis of: First Edition Committee Co-Counsel

OVERVIEW: House Bill 529 authorizes the Utilities Commission (Commission) to adopt, implement, modify, or eliminate a rate adjustment mechanism for regulated water and wastewater utilities to reflect changes in customer usage in a general rate case.

[As introduced, this bill was identical to S429, as introduced by Sen. Newton, which is currently in Senate Commerce and Insurance.]

CURRENT LAW: The rates for regulated water and wastewater public utilities are fixed by the Commission in a general rate case pursuant to G.S. 62-133.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 529 would allow the Commission to adopt a rate adjustment mechanism to track and true-up variations in customer usage, provided it finds the mechanism in the public interest. This would allow regulated water and wastewater utilities to have their rates adjusted to accurately reflect sales volume of water between general rate cases. The Commission may also modify or eliminate the rate adjustment mechanism in a general rate case.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The bill would become effective when it becomes law.

Kyle Evans, Legislative Analysis Division, contributed significantly to this summary.

