

**Local Government Mandate Statement
Kentucky Legislative Research Commission
2021 Regular Session**

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 1174

Bill #: HB 272 SCS 1

Document ID #: 7431

Bill Subject/Title: AN ACT relating to utility services.

Sponsor: Josh Bray

Unit of Government: City County Urban-County
Unified Local
 Charter County Consolidated Local Government

Office(s) Impacted: county and municipal utilities

Requirement: Mandatory Optional

Effect on

Powers & Duties: Modifies Existing Adds New Eliminates Existing

**Part II: Bill Provisions and the Estimated Fiscal Impact Relating to Local
Government**

The fiscal impact of HB 272 SCS on any particular city or county utility will be minimal to moderate, depending entirely on the utility and the frequency and duration of emergency declarations. The bill requires that local government utilities must conform to federal law regarding the designation of their workers as “essential or critical infrastructure workers”. The Act provides that late payments and cutoffs may not be suspended during declared emergencies. However, the bill also provides that any late payment charge imposed by a water district or water association shall be waived for any bill or portion of a bill for which a customer has received third-party billing assistance through the Low-Income Household Drinking Water and Wastewater Emergency Assistance Program or other public or charitable source.

Part III: Differences to Local Government Mandate Statement from Prior Versions

HB 272 SCS creates a minimal to moderate fiscal impact on county and municipal utilities. HB 272 SCS adds provisions to HB 272 GA as per the description above.

HB 272 SCS retains the provisions of HB 272/GA and adds a provision that any late payment charge imposed by a water district or water association shall be waived for any bill or portion of a bill for which a customer has received third-party billing assistance through the Low-Income Household Drinking Water and Wastewater Emergency Assistance Program or other public or charitable source.

The substitute makes no appreciable change to the fiscal impact of HB 272 GA.

Data Source(s): LRC staff

Preparer: H. Marks **Reviewer:** KHC **Date:** 3/16/21