



ORA

Office of Ratepayer Advocates
California Public Utilities Commission

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April 10, 2018

Honorable Jerry Hill
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5035
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1028 (Hill) – Support

Dear Senator Hill:

The Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA) is the independent consumer advocate within the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). ORA's mission is to advocate for the lowest possible rates for customers of California's regulated utilities consistent with safe, reliable service levels and the state's environmental goals.

ORA supports SB 1028, as proposed to be amended, which would require the CPUC to adjust investor-owned utility (IOU) customer rates to reflect the impact of the new federal tax law House Resolution 1 (Public Law 115-97).

Public Utilities Code Section 451 requires IOU rates and services to be just and reasonable. SB 1028 would help advance this state goal by requiring that any tax savings a utility receives from the new federal tax law be used to lower customers' rates. ORA supports the intent of this bill to help keep energy, water, and communications customer's services affordable, while allowing the CPUC the discretion to determine how best to reflect the tax savings in rates.

ORA looks forward to working with you on this legislation. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please don't hesitate to contact me at (415) 703-2381 or at elizabeth.echols@cpuc.ca.gov.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth Echols
Director

