

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **78th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1991**
4 **By: Representative McCoy**

A Bill ACT 578 OF 1991

HOUSE BILL 1639

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
9 SHALL NOT, IN ESTABLISHING UTILITY RATES, REDUCE OR
10 OTHERWISE CHANGE ANY WAGE RATE, BENEFIT, WORKING
11 CONDITION, OR OTHER TERM OR CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT THAT
12 IS THE SUBJECT OF A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT; AND
13 FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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17 SECTION 1. The General Assembly hereby finds and declares that the
18 people of Arkansas have benefitted greatly from stable and responsible labor
19 relations in the public utility industry, and that strengthening the
20 institution of collective bargaining between public utilities and labor
21 organizations for wages, hours, benefits, and other terms and conditions of
22 employment in order to preserve stability and responsibility is in the public
23 interest. The General Assembly further finds and declares that the well-being
24 of employees of public utilities, who are residents, citizens, taxpayers, and
25 consumers in Arkansas, is an essential element to balance with investor and
26 consumer interest in arriving at the public interest in setting rates for
27 public utilities.

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29 SECTION 2. In establishing public utility rates, the Public Service
30 Commission shall not reduce or otherwise change any wage rate, benefit,
31 working condition, or other term or condition of employment that is the
32 subject of a collective bargaining agreement between the public utility and a
33 labor organization.

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35 SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
36 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code

