



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

John E. Brooks

## Senator Brooks Announces Bill to Protect Consumers from Utility Rate Hikes

SEN. JOHN BROOKS May 4, 2017

| ISSUE: **ENERGY, ELECTRICITY, CONSUMER PROTECTION**

In an effort to increase transparency and protect Long Island consumers, **Senator John E. Brooks introduced legislation (S.4717) requiring utility companies across New York State to notify the public of the date and location of hearings regarding utility rate changes.** The notice would be included on a customer's monthly bill statement.

"More often than not, consumers are notified of rate hikes after the fact and often feel blindsided by skyrocketing gas and electric bills. The current system is laughable and we must do more to keep the public informed of issues that directly affect their finances."

**Senator Brooks continued,** "Many Long Island families simply cannot afford these constant rate increases, particularly seniors on fixed incomes. This measure will force the utility companies to consider the severe economic impact of rate hikes before increasing people's utility bills."

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RELATED LEGISLATION

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**2017-S4717**

- 
- Introduced
  
  - ◦ In Committee Assembly
    - In Committee Senate
  
  - ◦ On Floor Calendar Assembly
    - On Floor Calendar Senate
  
  - ◦ Passed Assembly
    - Passed Senate
  
  - Delivered to Governor
  
  - Signed By Governor
  
  -

Relates to requiring utility companies to include a notice of public hearings concerning rate increases

February 24, 2017

In Senate Committee [Energy and Telecommunications](#)

Sponsored by [John E. Brooks](#)

Do you support this bill?