



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Michael Gianaris

Assembly Passes Cruz-Gianaris Proposal Mandating A Consumer Advocate On The Public Service Commission

MICHAEL GIANARIS May 12, 2021

| ISSUE: **PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, CONSUMER PROTECTION, PUBLIC POWER, ELECTRICITY, WATER**



ALBANY – Assembly Member Catalina Cruz announced the State Assembly passed her legislation ([A.5838/S.1199](#)) mandating a consumer advocate have a voting seat on the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC).

Senate Deputy Leader Michael Gianaris said, "Too often the Public Service Commission serves the industries it regulates rather than the public. A consumer representative on the PSC

would be a powerful step moving things in the right direction. I am glad the Senate and Assembly have now both passed our bill requiring a voice for consumers on the PSC and I will continue to work with Assembly Member Cruz to deliver for New Yorkers.”

“New York's consumers need regulators who represent their interests, not the interests of their utility companies. This legislation will ensure there's a voice and vote for ratepayers at the table," said **Assemblywoman Catalina Cruz**. "I am pleased this passed the Assembly as we work together to deliver for New York's consumers.”

The PSC is comprised of five members. The board regulates telecommunications, electricity, steam, natural gas, and water service delivery. Currently, there are no membership requirements. All members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the state Senate.

Assembly Member Cruz is an active voice on energy reform issues, including opposing the proposed NRG peaker plant in Astoria.

RELATED LEGISLATION

2021-S1199

- 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

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Requires that at least one commissioner of the public service commission have experience in utility consumer advocacy

January 08, 2021

Signed by Governor

Sponsored by **Michael Gianaris**

Do you support this bill?