



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

# NEW YORK STATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS



**Senator Kevin M. Thomas**  
Chair



**CHAIR**  
ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
**COMMITTEES**  
ALCOHOLISM AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
BANKS  
FINANCE  
INSURANCE  
INTERNET AND TECHNOLOGY  
RULES



**SENATOR**  
**KEVIN S. PARKER**  
21ST SENATORIAL DISTRICT  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
**MAJORITY WHIP**

**ALBANY OFFICE:**  
ROOM 504  
CAPITOL  
ALBANY, NY 12247  
PHONE: 518-455-2580  
FAX: 518-426-6843

**DISTRICT OFFICE:**  
3021 TILDEN AVENUE, 1st FLOOR  
BROOKLYN, NY 11226-5107  
PHONE: 718-629-6401  
FAX: 718-629-6420

**e-mail:**  
parker@nysenate.gov

12/31/2019

The Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins  
Temporary President and Majority Leader  
New York State Senate  
Albany, NY 12247

Dear Senator Stewart-Cousins:

I am pleased to transmit the Annual Report of the Senate's Standing Committee on Energy and Telecommunications for the 2019 Legislative Session. As Chair, I am proud to continue to lead our efforts to address important matters under my committee's jurisdiction.

During the 2019 session, this committee met eight times in session and reported fifty-one bills. The Committee also held a hearing on electric power system reliability this past year.

I thank my colleagues who served on the Committee for their efforts and support of the work that was done in the committee this year, and I thank you for the continued support from the Majority Conference in the committee's operations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kevin Parker'.

Senator Kevin S. Parker



**2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION REPORT**

**NEW YORK STATE SENATE  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Senator Kevin Parker, Chairperson**

Committee Members

Senator David Carlucci Senator Pete Harckham Senator Brian Kavanagh Senator Timothy M. Kennedy Senator Jen Metzger	Senator Rich Funke Senator Robert G. Ort Senator Patty Ritchie
--	--

## **COMMITTEE JURISDICTION AND OVERVIEW**

During the 2019 Legislative Session, one hundred and sixty-eight bills were referred to the Committee for its review. Of these bills, fifty-one were reported from the Committee. Twenty-nine were passed by the Senate, and thirteen passed in both houses. Eight bills reported by the Committee have been signed into law. This work was conducted through a series of eight committee meetings. A list of all bills that were reported from the committee is provided at the end of this report. In addition to its regular meetings, the Committee held a hearing on electric power system reliability.

## COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

The following key bills were acted on by the committee in 2019:

- **S. 3585 PARKER – Chapter 705.** Requires gas and electric utilities to make available to landlords or lessors, upon request of prospective tenants or lessees, information concerning gas and electric charges incurred for residential rental premises; provided that such information shall be furnished without any charge or fee.
- **S. 5782A PARKER – Chapter 606.** Relates to commercial mobile radio and cellular telephone service providers; permits the commission of public service to designate any commercial mobile radio service provider as an eligible telecommunications carrier for purposes of providing lifeline service.
- **S. 23 PARKER – Passed Both Houses, Governor Veto 204.** Relates to maintaining the continued viability of the state’s existing large-scale, renewable energy resources.
- **S. 2356 PARKER – Chapter 186.** Requires companies to allow victims of domestic violence to cancel contracts when there is a domestic violence incident report, a police report, an order of protection or a signed affidavit.
- **S. 5627 PARKER – Passed Senate.** Expands customer access to community distributed generation by creating a model tariff to provide for the transfer of bill credits associated with electricity produced by community distributed generation facilities in one electric corporation territory to other territories.
- **S. 20 PARKER – Passed Senate.** Requires the public service commission to retain an independent auditor to conduct audits of private water utility companies prior to and after rate changes are approved by the public service commission.
- **S. 5820 METZGER – Chapter 676.** Requires the New York state energy research and development authority to study and make recommendations regarding the state’s electric vehicle inventory and improvements to the state’s electric vehicle infrastructure.
- **S. 5866 JACKSON – Chapter 666.** Requires a report on appliance and equipment energy efficiency standards and resulting energy and utility bill savings.
- **S. 4399 SAVINO –Passed Both Houses, Governor Veto 259.** Creates the state office of the utility consumer advocate to represent interests of residential utility customers.
- **S. 2270-A MAY – Chapter 32.** Creates the “Finger Lakes community preservation act”; prohibits the siting of newly constructed incineration facilities in the Finger Lakes region.
- **S. 3297-D HOYLMAN – Passed Senate.** Limits robocalls to state residents and requires telephone service providers to offer free call mitigation technology to telephone customers.

## TWO HOUSE BILLS

In 2019, thirteen of the one hundred and sixty-eight bills referred to the Standing Committee on Energy and Telecommunications passed both houses of the Legislature. Of these bills, the Governor has signed eight and vetoed five.

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>S. 23</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Relates to maintaining the continued viability of the state's existing large-scale, renewable energy resources</b>	<b>Veto 204 of 2019</b>
<b>S. 1607</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Relates to studying the implementation of 5G and next gen network technology in the state</b>	<b>Chapter 653 of 2019</b>
<b>S. 1873</b>	<b>COMRIE</b>	<b>Prescribes uniform system of accounts for power authority of the state of New York</b>	<b>Veto 196 of 2019</b>
<b>S. 2270A</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>Creates the "Finger Lakes community preservation act."</b>	<b>Chapter 32 of 2019</b>
<b>S. 2356</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Requires companies to allow victims of domestic violence to cancel contracts when there is a domestic violence incident report, a police report, an order of protection or a signed affidavit</b>	<b>Chapter 186 of 2019</b>
<b>S. 2376A</b>	<b>KRUEGER</b>	<b>Prohibits the unauthorized change of a natural gas or electric service provider</b>	<b>Chapter 537 of 2019</b>



<b>S. 3585</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Requires gas and electric utilities to make available to landlords upon request information concerning gas and electric charges incurred for residential premises</b>	<b>Chapter 705 of 2019</b>
<b>S. 4399</b>	<b>SAVINO</b>	<b>Creates the state office of the utility consumer advocate</b>	<b>Veto 259 of 2019</b>
<b>S. 5430</b>	<b>COMRIE</b>	<b>Relates to the minimum requirements for a quorum</b>	<b>Veto 224 of 2019</b>
<b>S. 5782A</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Relates to commercial mobile radio and cellular telephone service providers</b>	<b>Chapter 606 of 2019</b>
<b>S. 5820</b>	<b>METZGER</b>	<b>Requires the New York state energy research and development authority to study and make recommendations regarding the state's electric vehicle inventory and vehicle infrastructure</b>	<b>Chapter 676 of 2019</b>
<b>S. 5866</b>	<b>JACKSON</b>	<b>Requires an annual report on appliance and equipment energy efficiency standards and resulting energy and utility bill savings</b>	<b>Chapter 666 of 2019</b>
<b>S. 6041A</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>Directs the department of public service to study the feasibility of a municipal broadband program within the state</b>	<b>Veto 190 of 2019</b>

## SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

<b>S20</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Requires the public service commission to retain an independent auditor to conduct audits of private water utility companies prior to and after rate changes are approved by the public service commission</b>
<b>S21</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Directs the public service commission to study and report on time-of-use plans offered by electric and gas utilities</b>
<b>S23</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Relates to maintaining the continued viability of the state's existing large-scale, renewable energy resources</b>
<b>S452</b>	<b>HELMING</b>	<b>Relates to setting the rate of credit per kilowatt hour for farm waste generating equipment customer-generators, which includes the anaerobic digestion of agricultural waste</b>
<b>S1283</b>	<b>GIANARIS</b>	<b>Establishes a public service commission nominating board to make recommendations of persons qualified for appointment as commissioners of the public service commission</b>
<b>S1356</b>	<b>SERINO</b>	<b>Relates to informational notices on utility bills</b>
<b>S1535</b>	<b>KENNEDY</b>	<b>Relates to enacting the take charge New York power program</b>
<b>S1607</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Relates to studying the implementation of 5G and next gen network technology in the state</b>

<b>S1613</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Relates to production credit for production of biomethane</b>
<b>S1709</b>	<b>BROOKS</b>	<b>Relates to requiring utility companies to include a notice of public hearings concerning rate increases</b>
<b>S1873</b>	<b>COMRIE</b>	<b>Prescribes uniform system of accounts for power authority of the state of New York</b>
<b>S2155</b>	<b>GIANARIS</b>	<b>Requires that at least one commissioner of the public service commission have experience in utility consumer advocacy</b>
<b>S2202</b>	<b>BAILEY</b>	<b>Relates to conducting a study on various approaches to increasing broadband access within this state</b>
<b>S2270A</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>Creates the "Finger Lakes community preservation act"</b>
<b>S2352B</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Directs the state energy planning board to conduct a study of the technical and economic feasibility of a one hundred percent renewable energy system</b>
<b>S2355</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Directs the department of state and public service commission to study and report upon disclosure by utilities to credit reporting agencies of late payments</b>
<b>S2356</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Requires companies to allow victims of domestic violence to cancel contracts when there is a domestic violence incident report, a police report, an order of protection or a signed affidavit</b>
<b>S2376A</b>	<b>KRUEGER</b>	<b>Prohibits the unauthorized change of a natural gas or electric service provider</b>

<b>S2383</b>	<b>COMRIE</b>	<b>Requires certain information to be filed with the department of public service</b>
<b>S2665</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Prohibits the imposition of any charge or fee on the telephone bill of a consumer when such fee is imposed by a third party, without the consent of the consumer</b>
<b>S2846</b>	<b>RANZENHOFER</b>	<b>Relates to requiring the payment of small business grants within one hundred twenty days of notification of such funding</b>
<b>S2861</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Relates to the expiration of minutes purchased with prepaid cellular telephone cards</b>
<b>S3046</b>	<b>BRESLIN</b>	<b>Relates to notice requirements and municipal cooperation in wireless facility siting</b>
<b>S3176</b>	<b>LANZA</b>	<b>Directs the public service commission to implement rules requiring public utility companies to remove or relocate their utility poles when necessary for road improvements</b>
<b>S3286A</b>	<b>KRUEGER</b>	<b>Establishes a nuclear whistleblower access and assistance program to promote public health and safety</b>
<b>S3297D</b>	<b>HOYLMAN</b>	<b>Limits robocalls to state residents and requires telephone service providers to offer free call mitigation technology to telephone customers</b>
<b>S3410A</b>	<b>HARCKHAM</b>	<b>Establishes the New York state clean energy tech production program</b>

<b>S3575</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Directs the New York state energy research and development authority to do a study as to a comprehensive energy plan for the downstate region of the state</b>
<b>S3585</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Requires gas and electric utilities to make available to landlords upon request information concerning gas and electric charges incurred for residential premises</b>
<b>S3597</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Enacts the "Electric Super Highway Act of 2019"</b>
<b>S3599</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Enacts the accessible electronic information act</b>
<b>S3605</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Relates to utility intervenor reimbursement</b>
<b>S4029B</b>	<b>COMRIE</b>	<b>Relates to requiring certain notices to be provided to customers receiving telephone service through fiber optic-based telephone lines</b>
<b>S4172</b>	<b>MARTINEZ</b>	<b>Relates to the Long Island Power Authority and certain payments in lieu of taxes</b>
<b>S4399</b>	<b>SAVINO</b>	<b>Creates the state office of the utility consumer advocate</b>
<b>S4480</b>	<b>RANZENHOFER</b>	<b>Relating to school energy efficiency collaboration programs</b>
<b>S4519A</b>	<b>SKOUFIS</b>	<b>Relates to information cable television companies must provide to subscribers</b>
<b>S5122A</b>	<b>GAUGHRAN</b>	<b>Relates to the liability of a municipality or governmental subdivision for the refund of property taxes to the Long Island power authority</b>

<b>S5305B</b>	<b>HARCKHAM</b>	<b>Relates to the transfer or lease of closed electric generators</b>
<b>S5430</b>	<b>COMRIE</b>	<b>Relates to the minimum requirements for a quorum</b>
<b>S5439</b>	<b>METZGER</b>	<b>Relates to the purchase of fuel economy, battery, electric and hybrid passenger vehicles by the office of general services</b>
<b>S5627</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Relates to expanding customer access to community distributed generation</b>
<b>S5673</b>	<b>GAUGHRAN</b>	<b>Relates to false material statements related to a public utility</b>
<b>S5696</b>	<b>METZGER</b>	<b>Relates to the public service commission reviewing broadband and fiber optic services within the state</b>
<b>S5782A</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Relates to commercial mobile radio and cellular telephone service providers</b>
<b>S5820</b>	<b>METZGER</b>	<b>Requires the New York state energy research and development authority to study and make recommendations regarding the state's electric vehicle inventory and vehicle infrastructure</b>
<b>S5866</b>	<b>JACKSON</b>	<b>Requires an annual report on appliance and equipment energy efficiency standards and resulting energy and utility bill savings</b>
<b>S5998</b>	<b>COMRIE</b>	<b>Relates to requiring the registration of energy brokers and energy consultants</b>

<b>S6041A</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>Directs the department of public service to study the feasibility of a municipal broadband program within the state</b>
<b>S6112</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Establishes the New York state renewable reclamation projects program</b>
<b>S6195</b>	<b>PARKER</b>	<b>Relates to critical utility infrastructure security and responsibility</b>



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

**NEW YORK STATE SENATE**  
**STANDING COMMITTEE**  
ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS