

Submitter: D Torres
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB88
Chair & Committee Members,

I Strongly SUPPORT SB 88.

This legislation addresses a fundamental issue of fairness and accountability. Ratepayers should not be required to fund expenses that are not directly tied to the delivery of essential utility services. Advertising campaigns designed to enhance a company's public image, lobbying to shape legislation in their favor, and high-dollar executive compensation packages do not serve the public interest and should not be charged to customers.

Even more troubling is the idea that customers might bear the cost of penalties or fines stemming from a utility's own misconduct or regulatory violations. These are the consequences of a company's actions and should be paid by shareholders, not by the people who rely on these services to power their homes and businesses.

At a time when many households are already struggling with rising energy bills, we must ensure that every dollar charged on a utility bill is justifiable and necessary for service delivery. This bill reinforces the principle that utility rates should reflect only the legitimate, prudent costs of providing electricity or gas—not expenses designed to benefit the utility's private interests.

By enacting this legislation, we protect ratepayers, promote transparency, and hold utilities accountable to the public they serve.

I respectfully urge the Committee to vote in favor of this important bill.