



Josh Stein, Governor

*State of North  
Carolina*

GOVERNOR JOSH STEIN OBJECTIONS AND VETO MESSAGE:

***Senate Bill 266: AN ACT TO ELIMINATE THE INTERIM DATE FOR CARBON REDUCTION BY CERTAIN ELECTRIC PUBLIC UTILITIES, TO ALLOW AN ALTERNATIVE COST RECOVERY MECHANISM FOR THE FINANCING COSTS OF CONSTRUCTION WORK IN PROGRESS FOR BASELOAD ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITIES, TO MODIFY THE STATUTES GOVERNING COST RECOVERY FOR FUEL-RELATED CHARGES AND PERFORMANCE-BASED RATEMAKING, AND TO CODIFY A PROVISION AUTHORIZING SECURITIZATION OF COSTS FOR RETIREMENT OF COAL-FIRED GENERATING UNITS.***

This summer's record heat and soaring utility bills has shown that we need to focus on lowering electricity costs for working families -- not raising them. And as our state continues to grow, we need to diversify our energy portfolio so that we are not overly reliant on natural gas and its volatile fuel markets. Recent independent analysis of Senate Bill 266 shows that this bill could cost North Carolina ratepayers up to \$23 billion through 2050 due to higher fuel costs. This bill not only makes everyone's utility bills more expensive, but it also shifts the cost of electricity from large industrial users onto the backs of regular people -- families will pay more so that industry pays less. Additionally, this bill walks back our state's commitment to reduce carbon emissions, sending the wrong signal to businesses that want to be a part of our clean energy economy. My job is to do everything in my power to lower costs and grow the economy. This bill fails that test.

Therefore, I veto the bill.

  
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Josh Stein  
Governor

The bill, having been vetoed, is returned to the Clerk of the North Carolina Senate on this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2025, at 4:31 pm for reconsideration by that body.

RECEIVED FROM GOVERNOR

Date 7-2-25

Time 4:31 p.m.

Signed Sarah Holland

**SECTION 7.** This act is effective when it becomes law.  
In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2025.



Rachel Hunt  
President of the Senate



Donna McDowell White  
Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives

**VETO**



Josh Stein  
Governor

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ m. this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025

RECEIVED FROM GOVERNOR

Date 7-2-25

Time 4:31 p.m.

Signed Sarah Holland