

RESOLUTION NO. 32708

A RESOLUTION URGING THE ELECTRIC POWER BOARD (EPB) TO TAKE ALL STEPS POSSIBLE TO SAFEGUARD CHATTANOOGA CUSTOMERS WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT REOPENING TRANSITION IN THE COMING WEEKS TO FOLLOW, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, TEMPORARY PAUSES ON DISCONNECTIONS FOR NON-PAYMENT, EXPANDED PAYMENT PLANS, FLEXIBLE FEE/LATE FEE POLICIES, AND PROACTIVE OUTREACH TO AT-RISK HOUSEHOLDS.

WHEREAS, when the federal government pauses a lifeline like SNAP, local leaders must do everything in their power to keep families stable; and

WHEREAS, no parent should have to choose between keeping the lights and water on or buying groceries; and

WHEREAS, this resolution is about dignity, common sense, and preventing short-term hardship from becoming a long-term crisis;

WHEREAS, Chattanooga thrives when our neighbors can meet basic needs; and

WHEREAS, pausing sewer-related water shutoffs and asking the Electric Power Board (EPB) to use every tool available will help households bridge this gap without compounding debt or risking displacement; and

WHEREAS, together we can steady families until federal benefits are restored;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE, it is hereby urging the Electric Power Board (EPB) to take all steps possible to safeguard Chattanooga customers with the federal government transition in the coming weeks to follow, including, but not limited to, temporary pauses on disconnections for non-payment, expanded payment plans, flexible fee/late fee policies, and proactive outreach to at-risk households.

ADOPTED: November 18, 2025

/mem/v2