

SENATE BILL 54

C5

5lr0571
CF 5lr1531

By: **Senator Middleton**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2015

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Service Commission – Restrictions After Service**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a certain individual from receiving financial benefit from
4 certain public service companies, persons, or entities until a certain time has passed
5 after the individual has left service with the Public Service Commission as a
6 commissioner; and generally relating to the Public Service Commission.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article – Public Utilities
9 Section 1–101(a) and (x)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Public Utilities
14 Section 2–306
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – Public Utilities**

20 1–101.

21 (a) In this division the following words have the meanings indicated.

22 (x) (1) “Public service company” means a common carrier company, electric
23 company, gas company, sewage disposal company, telegraph company, telephone company,
24 water company, or any combination of public service companies.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) "Public service company" does not include:

2 (i) a campground that provides water, electric, gas, sewage, or
3 telephone service to campers incident to the campground's primary business of operating
4 and maintaining the campground; or

5 (ii) a person that owns or operates equipment used for charging
6 electric vehicles, including a person that owns or operates:

7 1. an electric vehicle charging station;

8 2. electric vehicle supply equipment; or

9 3. an electric vehicle charging station service company or
10 provider.

11 2-306.

12 (a) Until at least 2 years have passed after leaving service as a commissioner or
13 the People's Counsel, an individual may not:

14 (1) represent a public service company before the Commission;

15 (2) appear before the Commission on behalf of a party to a Commission
16 proceeding; or

17 (3) appear before the Commission on a matter within the jurisdiction of the
18 Commission.

19 (b) Until at least 1 year has passed after leaving service with the Commission as
20 the General Counsel or a hearing examiner, an individual may not:

21 (1) represent a public service company before the Commission;

22 (2) appear before the Commission on behalf of a party to a Commission
23 proceeding; or

24 (3) appear before the Commission on a matter within the jurisdiction of the
25 Commission.

26 **(C) UNTIL AT LEAST 1 YEAR HAS PASSED AFTER LEAVING SERVICE WITH**
27 **THE COMMISSION AS A COMMISSIONER, AN INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT RECEIVE**
28 **FINANCIAL BENEFIT FROM:**

1 **(1) A PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY THAT IS SUBJECT TO THE**
2 **JURISDICTION OF THE COMMISSION; OR**

3 **(2) A PERSON THAT DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, OR THROUGH ONE OR**
4 **MORE INTERMEDIARIES, CONTROLS, IS CONTROLLED BY, OR IS UNDER COMMON**
5 **CONTROL WITH A PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY THAT IS SUBJECT TO THE**
6 **JURISDICTION OF THE COMMISSION.**

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
8 October 1, 2015.