

SENATE BILL 79

C5

1lr1155

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Senator Kramer**

Requested: October 27, 2020

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2021

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Electricity – Change of Address – Maintenance of Subscriptions and Contracts**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a subscriber to a community solar energy generating
4 system who has a change in the service address associated with the subscription to
5 maintain the subscription under certain circumstances; prohibiting an electric
6 company or a subscription organization from terminating a subscriber's subscription
7 due to a change of a certain address under certain circumstances; requiring an
8 electric company to make certain changes to accommodate a subscriber's change of
9 address under certain circumstances; authorizing a residential electric customer who
10 has a change in the service address associated with the customer's electricity account
11 to maintain a certain contract under certain circumstances; prohibiting an electric
12 company from terminating a customer's contract due to a change of a certain address
13 under certain circumstances; requiring an electric company to make certain changes
14 to accommodate a customer's change of address under certain circumstances;
15 providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to electricity supply.

16 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
17 Article – Public Utilities
18 Section 7–306.2(a)(1) and (4) through (7)
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
22 Article – Public Utilities
23 Section 7–306.2(f) and (g)
24 Annotated Code of Maryland
25 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

26 BY adding to
27 Article – Public Utilities

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Section 7–312
2 Annotated Code of Maryland
3 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

6 **Article – Public Utilities**

7 7–306.2.

8 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

9 (4) “Program” means the Community Solar Energy Generating Systems
10 Pilot Program.

11 (5) “Subscriber” means a retail customer of an electric company that:

12 (i) holds a subscription to a community solar energy generating
13 system; and

14 (ii) has identified one or more individual meters or accounts to which
15 the subscription shall be attributed.

16 (6) “Subscriber organization” means:

17 (i) a person that owns or operates a community solar energy
18 generating system; or

19 (ii) the collective group of subscribers of a community solar energy
20 generating system.

21 (7) “Subscription” means the portion of the electricity generated by a
22 community solar energy generating system that is credited to a subscriber.

23 (d) (1) (i) The Commission shall establish a pilot program for a Community
24 Solar Energy Generating System Program.

25 (f) (1) Subject to regulations or orders of the Commission, a contract relating
26 to a community solar energy generating system or subscriber organization that is entered
27 into during the pilot program shall remain in effect according to the terms of the contract,
28 including after the termination of the pilot program.

29 **(2) (I) THIS PARAGRAPH APPLIES TO ELECTRIC COMPANIES,**
30 **ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES, AND MUNICIPAL UTILITIES THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE**
31 **PROGRAM.**

1 **(II) A SUBSCRIBER WHO HAS A CHANGE IN THE SERVICE**
2 **ADDRESS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SUBSCRIBER'S SUBSCRIPTION MAY MAINTAIN THE**
3 **SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE NEW ADDRESS IF THE NEW ADDRESS IS WITHIN THE SAME**
4 **ELECTRIC TERRITORY AS THE OLD ADDRESS.**

5 **(III) AN ELECTRIC COMPANY OR A SUBSCRIBER ORGANIZATION**
6 **MAY NOT TERMINATE A SUBSCRIBER'S SUBSCRIPTION DUE TO A CHANGE OF**
7 **ADDRESS FOR THE SERVICE ADDRESS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SUBSCRIPTION IF THE**
8 **REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH ARE MET.**

9 **(IV) AN ELECTRIC COMPANY SHALL MAKE ANY CHANGES**
10 **NECESSARY TO ACCOMMODATE A SUBSCRIBER'S CHANGE OF ADDRESS ON**
11 **NOTIFICATION BY A SUBSCRIBER ORGANIZATION.**

12 **(G) [(2)]** After termination of the pilot program, in accordance with the
13 operational and billing requirements in subsection (d) of this section:

14 **[(i)] (1)** a subscriber organization may continue the operation of a
15 community solar energy generating system that began operation during the pilot program,
16 including the creation and trading of subscriptions; and

17 **[(ii)] (2)** in accordance with the tariffs established under
18 subsection (e)(2) of this section, an electric company shall continue to facilitate the
19 operation of a community solar energy generating system that began operation during the
20 pilot program.

21 **[(g)] (H)** The cumulative installed nameplate capacity under the pilot program
22 shall count toward the overall limitation of 1,500 megawatts for all net metering projects
23 in § 7-306(d) of this subtitle.

24 **7-312.**

25 **(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO ELECTRIC COMPANIES, ELECTRIC**
26 **COOPERATIVES, AND MUNICIPAL UTILITIES THAT OFFER CUSTOMER CHOICE FOR**
27 **COMPETITIVE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY UNDER SUBTITLE 5 OF THIS TITLE.**

28 **(B) A RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC CUSTOMER WHO HAS A CHANGE IN THE**
29 **SERVICE ADDRESS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CUSTOMER'S ELECTRICITY ACCOUNT MAY**
30 **MAINTAIN THE CUSTOMER'S COMPETITIVE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CONTRACT FOR**
31 **THE NEW ADDRESS IF THE NEW ADDRESS IS WITHIN THE SAME ELECTRIC TERRITORY**
32 **AS THE OLD ADDRESS.**

33 **(C) AN ELECTRIC COMPANY MAY NOT TERMINATE A CUSTOMER'S**
34 **CONTRACT DUE TO A CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR THE SERVICE ADDRESS ASSOCIATED**

1 WITH THE CONTRACT IF THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS
2 SECTION ARE MET.

3 (D) AN ELECTRIC COMPANY SHALL MAKE ANY CHANGES NECESSARY TO
4 ACCOMMODATE A CUSTOMER'S CHANGE OF ADDRESS ON NOTIFICATION BY THE
5 CUSTOMER.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 October 1, 2021.