

## **Position Statement**

**OPPOSE** 

Finance Committee 2/19/2020

## SB 957: Maryland Online Consumer Protection Act

Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BGE) opposes *Senate Bill 957: Maryland Online Consumer Protection Act*, unless it is amended to address concerns that are specific to Maryland's utilities.

**SB 957** is a comprehensive bill that includes various requirements for businesses that collect customer information and how that information can be disclosed or be prohibited from being disclosed at a customer's request. Customer information includes account information, social security numbers, driver license numbers, and forms of tracking data, which could include electricity consumption data and other data that could impact the security of Maryland's transmission and distribution grid.

BGE understands the concerns about data privacy and appreciates a customer's desire to access personal information, however Maryland has historically exempted utilities from providing customers with disclosure of sensitive information in order to protect disclosure of critical electric infrastructure information.

The process of how information that impacts critical electric infrastructure information is disseminated and to whom continues to evolve through an existing Cyber-Security Reporting Work Group regulatory process at the Public Service Commission. Any policy impacting critical electric infrastructure information must be developed in a way that does not add unnecessary risk to the electric system, while protecting the electric utility's ability to service the needs of its customers.

We look forward to working with stakeholders to ensure the security of Maryland's energy infrastructure remains resilient against cyber-attacks.