

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2001 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

Senate Bill 49

Chairman FIN (Dept)

(Departmental – Public Service Commission)

Finance

Environmental Matters

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**Public Service Commission - Liquefied Petroleum Gas**

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This departmental bill removes the “grandfather clause” that exempts liquefied petroleum gas service franchises in existence on or before July 1, 1980 from the same safety standards that apply to franchises that began operating after July 1, 1980.

This bill also clarifies that liquefied petroleum gas service installations must comply with the metering requirements detailed in the Public Utility Companies Article.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The Public Service Commission (PSC) advises that no liquid petroleum gas service franchises were in existence before July 1, 1980, and that there is no rationale for excluding liquefied petroleum gas service installations from the PSC’s metering requirements.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** The Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

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## Analysis

**Current Law:** Liquefied petroleum gas service franchises in existence on or before July 1, 1980 are exempt from laws establishing safety standards and reporting requirements, which were enacted in 1998 (Chapter 8).

Current law does not specifically require liquefied petroleum gas service installations to comply with the metering requirements established for other public utility companies.

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### Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Public Service Commission, Office of People's Counsel, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader – January 17, 2001  
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