

SENATE BILL 285
SECOND PRINTING

Unofficial Copy
M3

2002 Regular Session
2lr0123

By: **Chairman, Finance Committee (Departmental - Public Service
Commission)**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2002

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Service Commission - Generation and Emissions Studies**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring electric companies in Maryland to conduct certain
4 environmental studies; and requiring the studies to be submitted by certain
5 dates.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article - Public Utility Companies
8 Section 7-516(d)
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (1998 Volume and 2001 Supplement)

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

13 **Article - Public Utility Companies**

14 7-516.

15 (d) (1) (i) In recognition of the potential environmental impacts of
16 restructuring the electric industry, it is the intent of the General Assembly to
17 minimize the effects of electric restructuring on the environment.

18 (ii) Electric companies in Maryland shall conduct a study that
19 tracks shifts in generation and emissions as a result of restructuring the electric
20 industry.

21 (iii) The study shall be submitted to the Department of the
22 Environment and the Commission one year after the initial date of implementation of
23 customer choice.

24 (IV) ELECTRIC COMPANIES IN MARYLAND SHALL UPDATE THIS
25 STUDY TWICE AND SUBMIT EACH UPDATED STUDY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE
26 ENVIRONMENT AND THE COMMISSION ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND ON
27 OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2004.

1 (2) If, after review of the study required under paragraph (1) of this
2 subsection, the Department of the Environment determines that the emissions levels
3 impose a higher emission burden in Maryland, the Department of the Environment,
4 in consultation with the Commission, shall study the appropriateness,
5 constitutionality, and feasibility of establishing an air quality surcharge or other
6 mechanism to protect Maryland's environment in connection with the
7 implementation of customer choice of electricity suppliers.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
9 effect July 1, 2002.