
By: **Delegates Stern, Cryor, Feldman, and Taylor**
Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2004
Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Competition in the Residential Electricity Supply**
3 **Market**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study Competition in the Residential
5 Electricity Supply Market; providing for the membership, purposes, and staffing
6 of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report to certain persons by a
7 certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to
8 the Task Force to Study Competition in the Residential Electricity Supply
9 Market.

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, That:

12 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Competition in the Residential Electricity
13 Supply Market.

14 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

15 (1) two members from the Senate of Maryland, each representing a
16 different electric utility service territory, appointed by the President of the Senate;

17 (2) two members from the Maryland House of Delegates, each
18 representing a different electric utility service territory, appointed by the Speaker of
19 the House;

20 (3) four members from different electric companies, each representing a
21 different electric utility service territory, appointed by the Governor;

22 (4) a representative from the Office of the People's Counsel, appointed by
23 the People's Counsel;

24 (5) a representative from the Public Service Commission, appointed by
25 the Chairman of the Commission;

26 (6) a representative from the Office of the Attorney General, appointed
27 by the Attorney General; and

1 (7) five members from organizations that represent public interests
2 throughout the State, selected by the Governor.

3 (c) The Governor shall designate the chairman of the Task Force.

4 (d) The Public Service Commission shall provide staff for the Task Force.

5 (e) A member of the Task Force:

6 (1) may not receive compensation; but

7 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
8 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

9 (f) The Task Force shall:

10 (1) study the effect of restructuring the electric industry on residential
11 customers;

12 (2) study and assess ways to stimulate competition in the residential
13 electricity supply market;

14 (3) develop strategies to educate consumers as to customer choice in the
15 electric industry;

16 (4) obtain public input on the development of competition in the
17 residential electricity supply market; and

18 (5) make appropriate recommendations on any changes that may be
19 advisable in order to stimulate competition in the residential electricity market.

20 (g) The Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the
21 Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the
22 General Assembly on or before December 31, 2005.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 June 1, 2004. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of May
25 31, 2006, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
26 abrogated and of no further force and effect.