

HOUSE BILL 453

C5

9lr0401
CF SB 1057

By: Delegates Haynes, Aumann, Barnes, Benson, Braveboy, Bromwell, Carr, Carter, G. Clagett, Conaway, DeBoy, Doory, Frick, Frush, Gaines, Gilchrist, Glenn, Gutierrez, Guzzone, Hammen, Holmes, Hucker, Ivey, James, Kaiser, Kirk, Manno, Mizeur, Montgomery, Nathan-Pulliam, Pena-Melnyk, Ramirez, Reznik, Rice, Robinson, Rosenberg, Ross, Schuler, Stukes, Taylor, F. Turner, V. Turner, Valderrama, and Waldstreicher

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2009
Assigned to: Economic Matters

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 30, 2009

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Service Companies - Termination of Electric and Gas Service -**
3 **Extreme Temperatures**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a public service company from terminating electric or
5 gas service to a residential customer in a certain area because of nonpayment on
6 a day for which the forecasted high temperature in the area is at or below a
7 certain temperature; prohibiting a public service company from terminating
8 electric service to a residential customer in a certain area because of
9 nonpayment on ~~certain days~~ if a day for which the forecasted ~~heat index~~
10 temperature in the area is at or above a certain ~~level~~ temperature; requiring
11 the Public Service Commission to require certain public service companies to
12 designate certain weather station areas for certain purposes; providing for the
13 construction of this Act; requiring the ~~Public Service~~ Commission to adopt
14 regulations to carry out this Act; and generally relating to public service
15 companies and the termination of electric and gas service to residential
16 customers.

17 BY adding to
18 Article - Public Utility Companies
19 Section 7-307.1

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 Annotated Code of Maryland
2 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

5 **Article - Public Utility Companies**

6 **7-307.1.**

7 (A) A PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY MAY NOT TERMINATE ELECTRIC OR
8 GAS SERVICE TO A RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER IN A DESIGNATED WEATHER
9 STATION AREA BECAUSE OF NONPAYMENT ON A DAY FOR WHICH THE
10 FORECASTED HIGH TEMPERATURE IS 32 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT OR BELOW IN
11 THAT WEATHER STATION AREA.

12 (B) A PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY MAY NOT TERMINATE ELECTRIC
13 SERVICE TO A RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER IN A DESIGNATED WEATHER STATION
14 AREA BECAUSE OF NONPAYMENT;

15 ~~(1) ON A DAY FOR WHICH THE FORECASTED HEAT INDEX~~
16 ~~TEMPERATURE IS 95 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT OR ABOVE IN THAT WEATHER~~
17 ~~STATION AREA, OR~~

18 ~~(2) ON THE DAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING A DAY FOR WHICH THE~~
19 ~~FORECASTED HEAT INDEX IS 95 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT OR ABOVE.~~

20 (C) THE COMMISSION SHALL REQUIRE EACH PUBLIC SERVICE
21 COMPANY THAT PROVIDES ELECTRIC OR GAS SERVICE TO DESIGNATE AND FILE
22 WITH THE COMMISSION DESIGNATED WEATHER STATION AREAS WITHIN ITS
23 SERVICE TERRITORY FOR USE IN ADMINISTERING THE RESTRICTIONS ON
24 WEATHER-RELATED TERMINATIONS UNDER SUBSECTIONS (A) AND (B) OF THIS
25 SECTION.

26 (D) THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO LIMIT THE AUTHORITY
27 OF THE COMMISSION TO ADOPT, BY REGULATION OR ORDER, ADDITIONAL
28 LIMITATIONS AND CONDITIONS ON TERMINATION OF ELECTRIC OR GAS SERVICE
29 THAT ARE MORE PROTECTIVE OF CONSUMERS.

30 ~~(E)~~ (E) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY
31 OUT THIS SECTION.

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
33 ~~October~~ June 1, 2009.

