

# SENATE BILL 793

C5

11r1928

---

By: **Senators Benson, Currie, Forehand, King, Montgomery, Ramirez, and Rosapepe**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2011

Assigned to: Finance

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Service Companies – Termination of Electric or Gas Service – Extreme**  
3 **Temperatures**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the forecasted temperatures beyond which an electric  
5 company or a gas company may not terminate certain services to certain  
6 customers; altering the period of certain forecasted temperatures within which  
7 an electric company or a gas company may not terminate certain services to  
8 certain customers; and generally relating to the termination of electric service  
9 and gas service by a public service company to residential customers.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

11 Article – Public Utilities  
12 Section 7–307.1  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2010 Replacement Volume)

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

17 **Article – Public Utilities**

18 7–307.1.

19 (a) A public service company may not terminate electric or gas service to a  
20 residential customer in a designated weather station area because of nonpayment on a  
21 day for which the forecasted high temperature is [32] **39** degrees Fahrenheit or below  
22 in that weather station area **OR WITHIN 48 HOURS OF THAT DAY.**

23 (b) A public service company may not terminate electric service to a  
24 residential customer in a designated weather station area because of nonpayment on a

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 day for which the forecasted temperature is [95] 90 degrees Fahrenheit or above in  
2 that weather station area **OR WITHIN 48 HOURS OF THAT DAY.**

3 (c) The Commission shall require each public service company that provides  
4 electric or gas service to designate and file with the Commission designated weather  
5 station areas within its service territory for use in administering the restrictions on  
6 weather-related terminations under subsections (a) and (b) of this section.

7 (d) This section may not be construed to limit the authority of the  
8 Commission to adopt, by regulation or order, additional limitations and conditions on  
9 termination of electric or gas service that are more protective of consumers.

10 (e) The Commission shall adopt regulations to carry out this section.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
12 October 1, 2011.