

# HOUSE BILL 1238

C5

3lr2964  
CF SB 853

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By: **Delegate Hucker**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2013

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Utility Companies – Removal of Lines from Utility Poles**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring certain electric companies and telephone companies to  
4 coordinate with certain companies the timing of the removal of certain lines so  
5 that certain lines are removed within a certain period of time; authorizing the  
6 Public Service Commission to adopt certain regulations or issue certain orders;  
7 and generally relating to the removal of lines from poles owned by utility  
8 companies.

9 BY adding to  
10 Article – Public Utilities  
11 Section 7–215 and 8–109  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Public Utilities**

17 **7–215.**

18 **(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO AN ELECTRIC COMPANY THAT PLANS TO**  
19 **REMOVE LINES FROM A POLE THAT:**

20 **(1) THE ELECTRIC COMPANY OWNS;**

21 **(2) IS USED BY A TELEPHONE COMPANY OR OTHER COMPANY**  
22 **AUTHORIZED BY THE ELECTRIC COMPANY TO ATTACH LINES; AND**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(3) THE ELECTRIC COMPANY PLANS TO REMOVE OR REPLACE.**

2           **(B) THE ELECTRIC COMPANY SHALL COORDINATE WITH A TELEPHONE**  
3 **COMPANY OR OTHER COMPANY THE TIMING OF THE REMOVAL OF ALL LINES**  
4 **ATTACHED TO A POLE SO THAT ALL LINES ARE REMOVED FROM THE POLE**  
5 **WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE FIRST LINES ARE REMOVED FROM THE POLE.**

6           **(C) THE COMMISSION MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS OR ISSUE ORDERS TO**  
7 **DEVELOP A PROCESS FOR THE COORDINATION OF THE REMOVAL OF ALL LINES**  
8 **FROM A POLE.**

9 **8-109.**

10           **(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO A TELEPHONE COMPANY THAT PLANS TO**  
11 **REMOVE LINES FROM A POLE THAT:**

12           **(1) THE TELEPHONE COMPANY OWNS;**

13           **(2) IS USED BY AN ELECTRIC COMPANY OR OTHER COMPANY**  
14 **AUTHORIZED BY THE TELEPHONE COMPANY TO ATTACH LINES; AND**

15           **(3) THE TELEPHONE COMPANY PLANS TO REMOVE OR REPLACE.**

16           **(B) THE TELEPHONE COMPANY SHALL COORDINATE WITH AN ELECTRIC**  
17 **COMPANY OR OTHER COMPANY THE TIMING OF THE REMOVAL OF ALL LINES**  
18 **ATTACHED TO A POLE SO THAT ALL LINES ARE REMOVED FROM THE POLE**  
19 **WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE FIRST LINES ARE REMOVED FROM THE POLE.**

20           **(C) THE COMMISSION MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS OR ISSUE ORDERS TO**  
21 **DEVELOP A PROCESS FOR THE COORDINATION OF THE REMOVAL OF ALL LINES**  
22 **FROM A POLE.**

23           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
24 October 1, 2013.