

SENATE BILL 14

C5

(PRE-FILED)

3lr0549
CF 3lr0546

By: **Senator Middleton**

Requested: October 11, 2012

Introduced and read first time: January 9, 2013

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Utility Service Protection Program – Annual Report – Deadline**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the date by which the Public Service Commission must
4 report each year to the General Assembly on terminations of gas or electric
5 service occurring during the previous heating season; and generally relating to
6 the Utility Service Protection Program.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article – Public Utilities
9 Section 7–307(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Public Utilities
14 Section 7–307(c)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Public Utilities**

20 7–307.

21 (a) In this section, “termination of service” means the termination, reduction,
22 or refusal to reinstate gas or electric service, or any other action that has the effect of
23 reducing or denying gas or electric service because of nonpayment.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (c) (1) In accordance with § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, on or
2 before **[June 1] SEPTEMBER 1** of each year, the Commission shall report to the
3 General Assembly on terminations of service by public service companies during the
4 previous heating season.

5 (2) The report shall include information in sufficient detail to indicate
6 the effect of the terminations of service on various categories of customers, including:

7 (i) income levels;

8 (ii) geographic areas;

9 (iii) energy assistance recipients; and

10 (iv) any other category that the Commission determines is
11 relevant to evaluate how the State may best address the problem of assuring adequate
12 gas and electric service for low income residential customers.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 June 1, 2013.