

SENATE BILL 54

C5

5lr0571
CF HB 140

By: **Senator Middleton**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2015

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 24, 2015

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Service Commission – Restrictions After Service**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a certain individual from receiving a certain financial
4 benefit from certain public service companies, persons, or entities until a certain time
5 has passed after the individual has left service with the Public Service Commission
6 as a commissioner; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating
7 to the Public Service Commission.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

9 Article – Public Utilities

10 Section 1–101(a) and (x)

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

14 Article – Public Utilities

15 Section 2–306

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

19 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article – Public Utilities**

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 1–101.

2 (a) In this division the following words have the meanings indicated.

3 (x) (1) “Public service company” means a common carrier company, electric
4 company, gas company, sewage disposal company, telegraph company, telephone company,
5 water company, or any combination of public service companies.

6 (2) “Public service company” does not include:

7 (i) a campground that provides water, electric, gas, sewage, or
8 telephone service to campers incident to the campground’s primary business of operating
9 and maintaining the campground; or

10 (ii) a person that owns or operates equipment used for charging
11 electric vehicles, including a person that owns or operates:

12 1. an electric vehicle charging station;

13 2. electric vehicle supply equipment; or

14 3. an electric vehicle charging station service company or
15 provider.

16 2–306.

17 (a) Until at least 2 years have passed after leaving service as a commissioner or
18 the People’s Counsel, an individual may not:

19 (1) represent a public service company before the Commission;

20 (2) appear before the Commission on behalf of a party to a Commission
21 proceeding; or

22 (3) appear before the Commission on a matter within the jurisdiction of the
23 Commission.

24 (b) Until at least 1 year has passed after leaving service with the Commission as
25 the General Counsel or a hearing examiner, an individual may not:

26 (1) represent a public service company before the Commission;

27 (2) appear before the Commission on behalf of a party to a Commission
28 proceeding; or

29 (3) appear before the Commission on a matter within the jurisdiction of the
30 Commission.

1 (C) UNTIL AT LEAST 1 YEAR HAS PASSED AFTER LEAVING SERVICE WITH
2 THE COMMISSION AS A COMMISSIONER, AN INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT RECEIVE
3 FINANCIAL BENEFIT THAT IS NOT OTHERWISE GENERALLY AVAILABLE TO THE
4 PUBLIC AS A CUSTOMER OF A PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY FROM:

5 (1) A PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY THAT IS SUBJECT TO THE
6 JURISDICTION OF THE COMMISSION; OR

7 (2) A PERSON THAT DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, OR THROUGH ONE OR
8 MORE INTERMEDIARIES, CONTROLS, IS CONTROLLED BY, OR IS UNDER COMMON
9 CONTROL WITH A PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY THAT IS SUBJECT TO THE
10 JURISDICTION OF THE COMMISSION.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall apply to an
12 individual who serves as a commissioner of the Public Service Commission on or after
13 January 1, 2015.

14 SECTION ~~2~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 ~~October~~ June 1, 2015.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.