

## Chapter 223

**(House Bill 140)**

AN ACT concerning

**Public Service Commission – Restrictions After Service**

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

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
 Article – Public Utilities  
 Section 1–101(a) and (x)  
 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
 Article – Public Utilities  
 Section 2–306  
 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

**Article – Public Utilities**

1–101.

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

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

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

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

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

1. an electric vehicle charging station;
2. electric vehicle supply equipment; or
3. an electric vehicle charging station service company or provider.

2-306.

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

- (1) represent a public service company before the Commission;
- (2) appear before the Commission on behalf of a party to a Commission proceeding; or
- (3) appear before the Commission on a matter within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

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

- (1) represent a public service company before the Commission;
- (2) appear before the Commission on behalf of a party to a Commission proceeding; or
- (3) appear before the Commission on a matter within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

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

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

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

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

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

**Approved by the Governor, May 12, 2015.**