

HOUSE BILL 808

C5

6lr0383

By: **Delegates Tarlau, Angel, Brooks, Carr, Ebersole, Fennell, C. Howard, Lam, McCray, Moon, Sanchez, Waldstreicher, A. Washington, and M. Washington**
Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2016
Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Service Commission – Damaged or Dangling Utility Lines – Fine**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Public Service Commission to notify a certain person
4 about a damaged or dangling line on a utility pole under certain circumstances;
5 requiring a certain person to investigate and, where appropriate, repair a damaged
6 or dangling line within a certain period after receiving notice from the Commission;
7 requiring the Commission to impose a certain fine on a certain person that fails to
8 repair a damaged or dangling line within a certain period; and generally relating to
9 damaged or dangling lines on utility poles.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Public Utilities

12 Section 5–107

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Public Utilities**

18 **5–107.**

19 **(A) IF AN INDIVIDUAL NOTIFIES THE COMMISSION OF A DAMAGED OR**
20 **DANGLING LINE ON A UTILITY POLE, THE COMMISSION SHALL PROMPTLY NOTIFY**
21 **THE PERSON THAT CONTROLS THE LINE ABOUT THE DAMAGED OR DANGLING LINE.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER RECEIVING NOTICE FROM THE COMMISSION,**
2 **THE PERSON THAT CONTROLS THE LINE SHALL INVESTIGATE AND, WHERE**
3 **APPROPRIATE, REPAIR THE DAMAGED OR DANGLING LINE.**

4 **(C) IF THE LINE IS NOT REPAIRED WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE COMMISSION**
5 **NOTIFIES THE PERSON THAT CONTROLS THE LINE ABOUT THE DAMAGED OR**
6 **DANGLING LINE, THE COMMISSION SHALL IMPOSE A FINE OF UP TO \$250 ON THE**
7 **PERSON THAT CONTROLS THE LINE FOR EACH 30-DAY PERIOD THAT THE LINE**
8 **REMAINS DAMAGED OR DANGLING.**

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
10 October 1, 2016.