HOUSE BILL 261

By: **Delegates Jackson, Angel, Knotts, Krimm, and Tarlau**
Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2017
Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1   AN ACT concerning

2   **Public Utilities – Termination of Service to Multifamily Dwelling Unit**
3   **– Notification to Property Owner or Property Manager**

4   FOR the purpose of requiring a public service company that is going to terminate electric
5   or gas service to a certain customer to notify a certain property owner or property
6   manager before terminating service; requiring a public service company to provide
7   the notice only to certain persons under certain circumstances; providing for the
8   construction of this Act; requiring the Public Service Commission to adopt certain
9   regulations; and generally relating to termination of electric or gas service.

10 BY adding to
11   Article – Public Utilities
12   Section 7–307.3
13   Annotated Code of Maryland
14   (2010 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

Article – Public Utilities

18 **7–307.3.**

19   **(A)   SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, IF A PUBLIC SERVICE**
20 **COMPANY IS GOING TO TERMINATE ELECTRIC OR GAS SERVICE TO A CUSTOMER WHO**
21 **RESIDES IN A MULTIFAMILY DWELLING UNIT, THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY SHALL**
22 **NOTIFY THE PROPERTY OWNER OR PROPERTY MANAGER OF THE MULTIFAMILY**
23 **DWELLING UNIT BEFORE TERMINATING SERVICE TO THE CUSTOMER.**

EXPLANATION: **CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**
          [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

1   **(B)   A PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY MAY ONLY PROVIDE NOTICE OF**
2   **TERMINATION UNDER THIS SECTION TO A PROPERTY OWNER OR PROPERTY**
3   **MANAGER WHO ENROLLS IN A SERVICE TERMINATION NOTIFICATION PROGRAM**
4   **ESTABLISHED UNDER REGULATIONS THAT THE COMMISSION ADOPTS.**

5   **(C)   NOTHING IN THIS SECTION MAY BE CONSTRUED TO PREVENT ANY**
6   **OTHER FORM OF THIRD–PARTY NOTIFICATION THAT A CUSTOMER MAY REQUEST.**

7   **(D)   THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS**
8   **SECTION.**

9   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
10   October 1, 2017.