

HOUSE BILL 56

E2

8lr0897

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegate Carr**

Requested: October 20, 2017

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2018

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Procedure – Search Warrants – Utility Meters**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a law enforcement officer from accessing certain
4 information, in the course of an investigation, from certain utility companies without
5 a certain search warrant; defining a certain term; and generally relating to utility
6 meters and search warrants.

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Criminal Procedure

9 Section 1–203.2

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Criminal Procedure**

15 **1–203.2.**

16 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “SMART METER” MEANS A DIGITAL METER THAT
17 ALLOWS TWO-WAY COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE PREMISES OF A UTILITY
18 CUSTOMER AND A WATER, GAS, OR ELECTRIC UTILITY COMPANY THROUGH A
19 WIRELESS NETWORK AS A COMPONENT OF ADVANCED METERING
20 INFRASTRUCTURE.

21 (B) A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER MAY NOT OBTAIN UTILITY DATA
22 RECORDED BY A SMART METER, IN THE COURSE OF AN INVESTIGATION, WITHOUT A
23 SEARCH WARRANT ISSUED UNDER § 1–203 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 2018.