

SENATE BILL 529

C5

0lr2749
CF 0lr2832

By: **Senator Feldman**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2020

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Service Commission – Electric Companies and Electric Cooperatives –**
3 **Customer Identification**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Public Service Commission to adopt regulations requiring
5 electric companies and electric cooperatives to adopt a method for an electricity
6 supplier enrolling a certain customer to provide certain information to adequately
7 identify the customer without using the customer’s account number; requiring the
8 regulations to require that a certain customer enrolling with an electricity supplier
9 may offer certain information as proof of identity under certain circumstances;
10 defining a certain term; and generally relating to methods to identify a customer to
11 an electric company or electric cooperative when enrolling a customer for competitive
12 electricity supply.

13 BY adding to

14 Article – Public Utilities

15 Section 7–311

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2019 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**

21 **7–311.**

22 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “ACCOUNT” MEANS A CUSTOMER’S ACCOUNT WITH AN**
23 **ELECTRIC COMPANY OR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT REQUIRE EACH**
2 **ELECTRIC COMPANY AND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE TO ADOPT A METHOD FOR AN**
3 **ELECTRICITY SUPPLIER ENROLLING A CUSTOMER FOR THE PROVISION OF**
4 **COMPETITIVE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY TO PROVIDE TO THE ELECTRIC COMPANY OR**
5 **ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE THE PROOF OF IDENTITY SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (C)**
6 **OF THIS SECTION TO ADEQUATELY IDENTIFY THE CUSTOMER WITHOUT USING THE**
7 **CUSTOMER'S ACCOUNT NUMBER.**

8 **(C) THE REGULATIONS SHALL REQUIRE THAT A CUSTOMER ENROLLING**
9 **WITH AN ELECTRICITY SUPPLIER FOR THE PROVISION OF COMPETITIVE**
10 **ELECTRICITY SUPPLY WHO CHOOSES NOT TO PROVIDE THE ASSOCIATED ACCOUNT**
11 **NUMBER MAY PROVIDE TO THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLIER PROOF OF IDENTITY AS**
12 **FOLLOWS:**

13 **(1) A GOVERNMENT-ISSUED IDENTIFICATION CARD; AND**

14 **(2) AT LEAST TWO OF THE FOLLOWING:**

15 **(I) THE PHONE NUMBER ASSOCIATED WITH THE CUSTOMER'S**
16 **ACCOUNT;**

17 **(II) THE LAST FOUR DIGITS OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER**
18 **OF THE ACCOUNT HOLDER;**

19 **(III) THE ACCOUNT HOLDER'S DATE OF BIRTH; OR**

20 **(IV) THE AMOUNT DUE ON THE ACCOUNT LISTED ON ONE OF THE**
21 **THREE ELECTRIC BILLS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DATE OF ENROLLMENT**
22 **WITH THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLIER.**

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, 2020.