

SENATE BILL 686

C5

0lr1918
CF HB 260

By: **Senators Washington, Benson, and Kelley**
Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020
Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Residential Electricity and Gas Supply Billing Information – Reports**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring certain persons to submit to the Public Service Commission
4 beginning on a certain date monthly reports containing detailed billing information
5 on the supply of electricity and gas to certain residential customers; requiring certain
6 initial reports to include certain historical information; providing for the required
7 contents of each report; requiring certain information to be organized by certain
8 categories; requiring the Commission to make each report available to certain
9 persons; requiring the Office of Home Energy Programs to use the reports to make
10 certain analyses; requiring the Commission, in consultation with the Office, to
11 provide a certain overview report each year to the General Assembly containing
12 certain information; requiring the Commission to publish the overview report on its
13 website; defining certain terms; and generally relating to reports on supplying
14 electricity and gas to residential customers.

15 BY adding to

16 Article – Public Utilities
17 Section 7–311
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

22 **Article – Public Utilities**

23 **7–311.**

24 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
25 **INDICATED.**

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



1 **(2) “LOW-INCOME CUSTOMER” MEANS AN ELECTRIC OR GAS**
2 **CUSTOMER WHO RECEIVES ENERGY ASSISTANCE BENEFITS FROM THE OFFICE OF**
3 **HOME ENERGY PROGRAMS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.**

4 **(3) “UTILITY-PROCURED GAS” MEANS GAS PROCURED BY A GAS**
5 **COMPANY FOR RETAIL SALE TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS WITHIN THE GAS**
6 **COMPANY’S SERVICE TERRITORY.**

7 **(B) (1) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021, THE FOLLOWING PERSONS SHALL**
8 **SUBMIT A MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COMMISSION CONTAINING DETAILED BILLING**
9 **INFORMATION ON THE SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY AND GAS TO RESIDENTIAL**
10 **CUSTOMERS IN THE PERSON’S SERVICE TERRITORY:**

11 **(I) EACH ELECTRIC COMPANY;**

12 **(II) EACH GAS COMPANY; AND**

13 **(III) EACH ELECTRICITY OR GAS SUPPLIER THAT BILLS**
14 **RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS FOR SUPPLYING ELECTRICITY OR GAS.**

15 **(2) THE INITIAL REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION BY EACH**
16 **PERSON SHALL CONTAIN INFORMATION FOR THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS.**

17 **(C) EACH REPORT SHALL CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR**
18 **ELECTRICITY OR GAS SUPPLIED BY AN ELECTRICITY OR GAS SUPPLIER, BROKEN**
19 **DOWN BY SUPPLIER:**

20 **(1) THE TOTAL KILOWATT-HOURS OR THERMS BILLED;**

21 **(2) THE TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT BILLED; AND**

22 **(3) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS BILLED.**

23 **(D) THE INFORMATION IN EACH REPORT SHALL BE ORGANIZED BY THE**
24 **FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:**

25 **(1) ALL CUSTOMERS OTHER THAN LOW-INCOME CUSTOMERS; AND**

26 **(2) ALL LOW-INCOME CUSTOMERS.**

27 **(E) THE COMMISSION SHALL MAKE EACH REPORT AVAILABLE TO THE**
28 **OFFICE OF PEOPLE’S COUNSEL AND THE OFFICE OF HOME ENERGY PROGRAMS.**

1 **(F) THE OFFICE OF HOME ENERGY PROGRAMS SHALL USE THE REPORTS**
2 **TO ANALYZE INFORMATION RELATING TO LOW-INCOME CUSTOMERS, INCLUDING**
3 **CALCULATING THE TOTAL SAVINGS AND COSTS FOR THE LOW-INCOME CUSTOMERS**
4 **OF EACH SUPPLIER.**

5 **(G) EACH YEAR, THE COMMISSION, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE OFFICE OF**
6 **HOME ENERGY PROGRAMS, SHALL:**

7 **(1) PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN**
8 **ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THAT**
9 **INCLUDES:**

10 **(I) A COMPARISON OF THE AGGREGATED RESIDENTIAL**
11 **ELECTRICITY AND GAS SUPPLY PRICES WITH THE STANDARD OFFER SERVICE OR**
12 **UTILITY-PROCURED GAS PRICES BY SUPPLIER; AND**

13 **(II) AN ASSESSMENT OF HOW THESE PRICES IMPACT THE BILLS**
14 **OF LOW-INCOME CUSTOMERS; AND**

15 **(2) PUBLISH THE OVERVIEW REPORT ON THE COMMISSION'S**
16 **WEBSITE.**

17 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect**
18 **October 1, 2020.**