

SENATE BILL 595

C5
HB 260/20 – ECM

1lr1739

By: **Senator Washington**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2021

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

15 BY adding to

16 Article – Public Utilities

17 Section 7–312

18 Annotated Code of Maryland

19 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2020 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 **7–312.**

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, 2022, THE FOLLOWING PERSONS SHALL**
8 **SUBMIT A MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COMMISSION CONTAINING INFORMATION ON**
9 **THE SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY AND GAS TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS IN THE**
10 **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.**

29 **(F) THE OFFICE OF HOME ENERGY PROGRAMS SHALL USE THE REPORTS**

1 TO ANALYZE INFORMATION RELATING TO LOW-INCOME CUSTOMERS, INCLUDING
2 CALCULATING THE TOTAL SAVINGS AND COSTS FOR THE LOW-INCOME CUSTOMERS
3 OF EACH SUPPLIER.

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

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

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

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

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

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 October 1, 2021.