

SENATE BILL 595

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HB 260/20 – ECM

By: Senator Washington

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2021

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Residential Electricity and Gas Supply Billing Information – Reports

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

BY adding to

Article – Public Utilities

Section 7-312

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2020 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

Article – Public Utilities

7-312.

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

(3) "UTILITY-PROCURED GAS" MEANS GAS PROCURED BY A GAS COMPANY FOR RETAIL SALE TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS WITHIN THE GAS COMPANY'S SERVICE TERRITORY.

(B) (1) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2022, THE FOLLOWING PERSONS SHALL SUBMIT A MONTHLY REPORT TO THE COMMISSION CONTAINING INFORMATION ON THE SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY AND GAS TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS IN THE PERSON'S SERVICE TERRITORY:

(I) EACH ELECTRIC COMPANY;

(II) EACH GAS COMPANY; AND

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

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

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

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

(2) THE TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT BILLED; AND

(3) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS BILLED.

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

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

(2) ALL LOW-INCOME CUSTOMERS.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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