

HB1532/353225/1

BY: Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 1532, AS AMENDED

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1 of the Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Amendments (HB1532/393820/1), in line 16 of Amendment No. 1, after “organization;” insert “requiring the Commission or, at the Commission’s direction, a person applying for a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the construction of any transmission line to provide certain notices to certain landowners regarding the construction; establishing that if the Commission makes a certain finding, a certain public hearing is invalidated or the Commission may order a new hearing under certain circumstances;”; and in line 18, after “necessity;” insert “requiring the Commission to establish and review certain electric system metrics; requiring electric companies to submit a certain electric system utilization improvement plan to the Commission at certain times;”.

On page 2 of the Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Amendments, in line 3 of Amendment No. 1, after “use;” insert “prohibiting the Commission from adopting or enforcing a regulation or order that prohibits a public service company from offering a discount or payment plan for the connection or extension of a natural gas line to a customer’s property;”; and in line 23, after “to” insert “greenhouse gas emissions reductions,”.

On page 4 of the Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Amendments, in Amendment No. 1, after line 4, insert:

“BY adding to

Article – Environment

Section 2–1209

Annotated Code of Maryland

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(2013 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)”;

and after line 9, insert:

“BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Financial Institutions
Section 12–401(a) and (i)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)”.

On page 5 of the Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Amendments, in line 11 of Amendment No. 1, after “7–216.1(d).” insert “7–219.1.”; in line 13, after “7–321.” insert “7–322.”; and in line 18, after “7–103.” insert “7–204.”.

On page 6 of the Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Amendments, in line 1 of Amendment No. 1, after “Section” insert “3–106.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 16 of the Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Amendments, in Amendment No. 2, after line 3, insert:

“2–1209.

(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PREPARE AN ANNUAL REPORT ON THE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS ACHIEVED AS A RESULT OF THE ADOPTION OF ELECTRIC VEHICLES IN THE STATE.

(B) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2027, AND EACH DECEMBER 31 THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT THE REPORT REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2–1257 OF THE

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**STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION,
ENERGY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE HOUSE ENVIRONMENT AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.**

On page 23 of the Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Amendments, in Amendment No. 2, after line 16, insert:

“Article – Financial Institutions

12-401.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(i) “Executive officer” means a president, vice president, senior officer responsible for business operations, chief financial officer, or any other individual who performs similar functions.”.

On page 44 of the Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Amendments, after the fifth line from the bottom of Amendment No. 2, insert:

“3-106.

(a) If a person timely files, the person may apply to intervene in a proceeding before the Commission.

(b) The Commission shall grant leave to intervene unless the Commission concludes that:

(1) the parties to the proceeding adequately represent the interest of the person seeking to intervene; or

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(2) the issues that the person seeks to raise are irrelevant or immaterial.

(c) (1) An intervenor has all the rights of a party to a proceeding.

(2) In a proceeding before the Commission, an individual who is an intervenor may represent himself or herself.”.

On page 56 of the Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Amendments, in line 7 of Amendment No. 2, strike “EMPLOYEE” and substitute “EXECUTIVE OFFICER”; in the same line, strike “EMPLOYEE’S” and substitute “EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S”; and in line 20, strike “EMPLOYEE” and substitute “EXECUTIVE OFFICER”.

On page 57 of the Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Amendments, in line 2 of Amendment No. 2, strike “EMPLOYEE’S” and substitute “EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S”.

On pages 57 and 58 of the Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Amendments, in Amendment No. 2, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 15 on page 57 through line 9 on page 58, inclusive, and substitute:

“(4) “EXECUTIVE OFFICER” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 12-401 OF THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ARTICLE.”;

and in line 20, after “AN” insert “EXECUTIVE”.

On page 60 of the Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Amendments, after the first line from the bottom of Amendment No. 2, insert:

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“7-204.

(a) IN THIS SECTION, “CONSTRUCTION” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 7-207 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(B) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, at least 30 days before a hearing, a public service company shall provide to each owner of land and each owner of adjacent land, by certified mail, written notice of intent to run a line or similar transmission device over, on, or under the land.

(2) AT THE SAME TIME A PERSON APPLIES FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TRANSMISSION LINE UNDER § 7-207 OR § 7-208 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE COMMISSION SHALL PROVIDE, OR DIRECT THE PERSON APPLYING FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO PROVIDE, BY CERTIFIED MAIL, NOTICE OF INTENT TO RUN A LINE OR SIMILAR TRANSMISSION DEVICE OVER, ON, OR UNDER THE LAND TO:

(I) EACH OWNER OF LAND THAT ABUTS THE PROPERTY WHERE THE CONSTRUCTION IS PLANNED; AND

(II) FOR CONSTRUCTION OF AN OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINE, EACH OWNER OF LAND AND EACH OWNER OF ADJACENT LAND.

(3) NOTICE PROVIDED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL ADVISE THE RECIPIENT OF:

(I) ANY APPLICABLE RIGHT TO FILE AS AN INTERVENOR IN THE PROCEEDING IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 3-106 OF THIS ARTICLE;

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(II) THE PROCESS FOR FILING AS AN INTERVENOR IN THE PROCEEDING, INCLUDING THE METHOD FOR FILING AND THE LOCATION WHERE THE FILING IS REQUIRED TO BE SUBMITTED;

(III) THE DATE AND TIME BY WHICH THE RECIPIENT IS REQUIRED TO FILE AS AN INTERVENOR IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED TIMELY; AND

(IV) CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE COMMISSION AND THE WEBSITE WHERE THE RECIPIENT MAY OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING INTERVENTION RIGHTS AND PROCEDURES.

[(2)] (C) The public service company shall determine the property owners from the current tax assessment records of the political subdivision in which the property is located.

[(b) Unless the failure is willful or deliberate, the failure of a public service company to provide notice does not invalidate a public hearing or require that another hearing take place.]

(D) IF THE COMMISSION FINDS THAT A PERSON DIRECTED TO PROVIDE NOTICE UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(2) OF THIS SECTION FAILS TO PROVIDE NOTICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION:

(1) THE PUBLIC HEARING IS INVALIDATED AND ANOTHER HEARING MUST TAKE PLACE IF THE FAILURE IS WILLFUL OR DELIBERATE; OR

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(2) THE COMMISSION MAY, WITHIN ITS DISCRETION, REQUIRE ANOTHER HEARING TO TAKE PLACE IF THE FAILURE IS NOT WILLFUL OR DELIBERATE.”.

On page 89 of the Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Amendments, after line 10 of Amendment No. 2, insert:

“7-219.1.

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

(2) “METRICS” MEANS MEASURES USED TO ASSESS THE EFFICIENCY AND PERFORMANCE OF ELECTRIC SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE.

(3) “THROUGHPUT” MEANS THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF ELECTRICITY, MEASURED IN KILOWATT-HOURS, THAT PASSES THROUGH THE ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM AND ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION SYSTEM OVER A SPECIFIED PERIOD OF TIME.

(4) “UTILIZATION” MEANS THE EXTENT TO WHICH ELECTRIC SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE IS BEING USED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF RATEPAYERS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

(B) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2027, THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, BY ORDER OR REGULATION, SHALL ESTABLISH ELECTRIC SYSTEM UTILIZATION METRICS THAT PROVIDE SUFFICIENTLY DETAILED AND TRANSPARENT INFORMATION TO ENABLE THE COMMISSION TO ASSESS THE

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EFFICIENCY AND PERFORMANCE OF EACH ELECTRIC COMPANY'S ELECTRIC SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE.

(C) THE COMMISSION SHALL DETERMINE HOW METRICS SHALL BE CALCULATED AND REPORTED TO ENSURE THE SECURITY OF THE ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION AND TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS, INCLUDING THROUGH THE AGGREGATION AND ANONYMIZATION OF DATA AND THE USE OF CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS.

(D) METRICS ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL:

(1) INCLUDE:

(I) TOTAL THROUGHPUT IN RELATION TO TOTAL POTENTIAL THROUGHPUT;

(II) PEAK LOAD IN RELATION TO LOAD LIMITS;

(III) THE DURATION OF PEAK LOAD PERIODS; AND

(IV) ANY OTHER INFORMATION THE COMMISSION CONSIDERS NECESSARY; AND

(2) BE CALCULATED WITH SUFFICIENT TIME AND LOCATION DETAIL TO ASSESS ELECTRIC SYSTEM UTILIZATION AT LEAST:

(I) SEASONALLY;

(II) SYSTEM-WIDE; AND

(III) AT THE FEEDER, SUBSTATION, AND TRANSMISSION LINE LEVEL.

(E) ON OR BEFORE APRIL 1, 2027, AND ON OR BEFORE APRIL 1 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION SHALL:

(1) REVIEW AND ASSESS EACH ELECTRIC COMPANY'S ELECTRIC SYSTEM UTILIZATION METRICS; AND

(2) ESTABLISH TARGETED IMPROVEMENTS IN UTILIZATION THAT IMPROVE RATEPAYER AFFORDABILITY WHILE CONSIDERING LOAD GROWTH, RATE IMPACTS, AND OTHER STATE POLICY GOALS.

(F) (1) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2027, AND ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 EVERY 3 YEARS THEREAFTER, EACH ELECTRIC COMPANY SHALL SUBMIT TO THE COMMISSION AN ELECTRIC SYSTEM UTILIZATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN DESIGNED TO:

(I) ACHIEVE THE TARGET IMPROVEMENTS IN ELECTRIC SYSTEM UTILIZATION ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION; AND

(II) GENERATE BENEFITS THROUGH THE REALIZATION OF ADDITIONAL VALUE FROM EXISTING ASSETS FOR PARTICIPATING CUSTOMERS, UTILITIES, AND ALL RATEPAYERS.

(2) EACH ELECTRIC SYSTEM UTILIZATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN SHALL INCLUDE COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE TECHNOLOGIES THAT ADDRESS

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ELECTRIC SYSTEM NEEDS, IMPROVE ELECTRIC SYSTEM UTILIZATION AND RATEPAYER AFFORDABILITY, AND MAY INCLUDE:

- (I) FRONT-OF-THE-METER RESOURCES;
- (II) BEHIND-THE-METER RESOURCES; AND
- (III) ENABLING TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENTS.”.

On page 135 of the Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Amendments, in line 17 of Amendment No. 2, strike “SUBTITLE;” and substitute “SUBTITLE THAT ARE SITED ON COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL ROOFTOPS;

(IV) OTHER COMMUNITY SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEMS UNDER § 7-306.2 OF THIS SUBTITLE;”;

and in line 18, strike “(IV)” and substitute “(V)”.

On page 136 of the Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Amendments, in line 1 of Amendment No. 2, strike “(V)” and substitute “(VI)”.

On page 138 of the Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Amendments, after line 22 of Amendment No. 2, insert:

“7-322.

THE COMMISSION MAY NOT ADOPT OR ENFORCE ANY REGULATION OR ORDER THAT PROHIBITS A PUBLIC SERVICES COMPANY FROM OFFERING A

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**DISCOUNT OR PAYMENT PLAN FOR THE CONNECTION OR EXTENSION OF A
NATURAL GAS LINE TO A CUSTOMER'S PROPERTY.**".