

DELEGATE DERECK DAVIS

25th Legislative District
Prince George's County

Chair

Economic Matters Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 231
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
301-858-3519 · 410-841-3519
800-492-7122 Ext. 3519
Fax 301-858-3558 · 410-841-3558

The Maryland House of Delegates

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony in Support

of

HB 260 - Residential Electricity and Gas Supply Billing Information - Reports

HB 260 requires electric companies, gas companies, and specified electricity and gas suppliers to submit monthly reports to the Public Service Commission (PSC) on the supply of electricity and gas to their residential customers. Additionally, the bill specifies the content of the reports and the distribution of the reports to the various entities in the State.

In 1999, the General Assembly passed legislation restructuring the electric utility industry in Maryland. The Electric Customer Choice and Competition Act of 1999 allowed customers to purchase electricity from a competitive supplier or to continue receiving electricity under standard offer service (SOS). The premise of that legislation was a deregulated energy market would provide consumers with choices, spark competition, and save everyone money.

For a number of years, reports indicated that consumers did see some benefits. However, that may no longer be entirely the case. Advocates for this bill report that Maryland households have been losing money by using third-party suppliers. Their examination of the competitive energy market in Maryland contends it is not benefitting residential consumers and may be especially harmful to low-income households.

I request a favorable report on HB 260 in an effort to get the data that will let us compressively review the effects of customer choice on Maryland consumers.