

SB 949 OPC_Favorable.pdf

Uploaded by: Montgomery, Endia

Position: FAV

STATE OF MARYLAND
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BILL NO.: Senate Bill 949
**Public Utilities – Bills for Electricity Service –
Meter Reading**

COMMITTEE: Finance

HEARING DATE: March 31, 2021

SPONSOR: Senator Hershey

POSITION: Favorable

The Maryland Office of People’s Counsel (OPC) supports Senate Bill 949. The bill benefits consumers by providing them more information in their monthly bills. SB 949 requires that utilities regulated by the Public Service Commission (PSC) include in their customers’ bills for electricity service the customer’s exact meter readings from the close of the last billing and current billing cycles. This information would be listed on the monthly bill sent to the customer.

OPC supports the provision of the meter-reading information that is used to generate a customer’s monthly utility bill so that the customer can verify their usage with the charges for service. The provision of meter readings on customer bills was the traditional method to list usage by a customer before the adoption of automated metering information. The meter readings from the close of the last billing cycle and the close of the current billing cycle provides a useful check for customers.

Recommendation: OPC requests a favorable report on SB 949.

EJM Best Climate Solutions Now Act.pdf

Uploaded by: Wilkinson, nanci

Position: FAV

Climate Solutions Act Now of 2021

Committee: House Environment and Transportation

Date of Hearing: March 31, 2021

Position: Favorable

Organization: Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church Environmental Justice Ministry

The Environmental Justice Ministry of Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church strongly supports the Climate Solutions Act Now of 2021 without any weakening amendments. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which humanity and nature are a part is a key UU principle. Without this principle, the destruction of our earth through unmitigated climate change may also be the final existential threat to humanity. Climate change is an emergency and Maryland must be a role model for sustainability and resilience to the world.

This Act will importantly increase our 2030 emissions reduction goal from 40% to 60% based on 2006 levels and get us to net zero emissions by 2045. While we would have preferred a much stronger greenhouse gas emission target, it is important that the building energy efficiency provisions are maintained in this bill in order to meet the legislative climate goals of the state. This bill will greatly support building energy efficiency of Montgomery County as well. The Montgomery County Climate Action Plan noted that 50% of the County's greenhouse gas emissions are generated by buildings.

This is a measured, bipartisan way for Maryland to retake its mantle as a national climate leader. Let's pass Climate Solutions Now in 2021 with no weakening amendments.

PHI Testimony SB949 Public Utilities Bills for EI

Uploaded by: Lanzarotto, Kathryn

Position: INFO



An Exelon Company



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March 31, 2021

112 West Street
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-269-7115

Informational – Senate Bill 949 Public Utilities – Bills for Electricity Service – Meter Reading

Senate Bill 949 would task the Public Service Commission (Commission), through regulation or order, to require that an electric utility include exact start and end date meter readings for residential customer bills.

Pepco and Delmarva Power are in the process of a system upgrade scheduled to go into production in late 2021. Despite the pending upgrade, Pepco and Delmarva Power will endeavor to implement the necessary system changes to include start and end date meter readings on customer bills by Q4 2021 for residential customers who are *not* participating in the Time Of Use Pilot program (TOU Pilot) that was authorized by the Commission.

Once the upgrade to our system is complete, Pepco and Delmarva Power will make a filing at the Commission to limit our existing waiver to non-residential customers and residential customers participating in the TOU Pilot. The system change required to be made for non-residential customers and residential customers who are participating in the TOU Pilot is expected to be completed by Q4 2022.

Contact:

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SB 949_INFORMATION_Stanek.pdf

Uploaded by: Stanek, Jason

Position: INFO

JASON M. STANEK
CHAIRMAN

MICHAEL T. RICHARD
ANTHONY J. O'DONNELL
ODOGWU OBI LINTON
MINDY L. HERMAN



PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

March 31, 2021

Chair Delores G. Kelley
Senate Finance Committee
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: INFORMATION – Public Utilities – Bills for Electricity Service – Meter Reading

Dear Chair Kelley and Committee Members:

Senate Bill 949 would require Maryland utilities to provide exact meter readings on a customer's bill for the close of the previous and current billing cycles. Currently, Maryland Code of Regulations 20.50.04.03A(1) and (3) includes a substantially similar requirement -- a meter reading at the end of the period for which the bill is rendered and the number of units consumed. In reviewing the sample bills available on utility websites, it appears that the majority of Maryland utilities (Baltimore Gas and Electric, Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative, Potomac Edison and Choptank Electric Cooperative) currently provide beginning and ending meter readings.

The Potomac Electric Power Company (Pepco) and Delmarva Power and Light Company (Delmarva) do not currently provide meter readings on their Maryland customer bills. In 2013 Pepco and Delmarva (collectively, the Companies) sought waivers of COMAR 20.50.04.03A(1) as part of the installation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI). In their request, the Companies stated that with the new AMI meters customers would no longer be billed based on beginning and ending meter readings. Rather, billing would be based on the sum of the consumption recorded in each hour by the meters over the course of the billing period. The Companies would provide daily consumption data on the bill in lieu of the meter readings. In the case of a dispute, the Companies would provide the hourly data to the customer upon request. The hourly data is also available on demand through the customer's online account.

In a Letter Order dated October 9, 2013, the Commission approved this request finding that there was good cause to waive the requirements of COMAR 20.50.04.03A(1). No party has asked the Commission to revisit this waiver since 2013. The waiver remains in effect. As noted above, it does appear that Pepco has the capability to provide the

information required in SB949 as that information is currently provided on their Washington, DC customer bills.

Thank you for your consideration of this information. Please contact Lisa Smith, Director of Legislative Affairs, at 410-336-6288 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jason M. Stanek". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jason M. Stanek
Chairman