

Economic Matters Committee,

I am a long-time resident of Montgomery County and I am writing to propose an important Amendment to HB 864.

**Proposed amendment:** section 7-227 should expressly prohibit any entity, whether the public service commission, a utility provider, or the executive branch, from preventing any ratepayer from opting out of a smart meter on their residence, without fee or penalty.

My position is justified by both the considerable peer reviewed science on the effects of wireless technology. Below is a link to information about smart meters, including counties and cities that have called for a moratorium on smart meters: <https://ehtrust.org/smartmeters-health-and-safety-faqs/>

Furthermore, I have seen the devastating effects of wireless technology on those sensitive to radio frequency radiation (RFR). There are many others may need to opt out given their health conditions.

Mandates are not the way to move forward. Safer solutions will be encouraged when residents have choices.

Thank you for your service and consideration of this important issue that affects access to safe housing.

Susan N. Labin, Ph.D.