HB 267



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VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

The Honorable C. T. Wilson Room 231 Taylor House Office Building 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: <u>Calpine Retail Holdings – House Bill 267 – Favorable</u>

with Amendment

Dear Chairman Wilson:

This letter is written on behalf of Calpine Retail Holdings LLC ("Calpine"), a licensed supplier of electricity and natural gas customers in all deregulated states, including Maryland. Calpine understands the need for additional protections for residential customers, but for the reasons explained below requests that non-residential customers be excluded from this legislation.

Non-residential customers, i.e., commercial and industrial, are sophisticated consumers who understand the choices they are making with respect to their purchase of gas and electricity. This business-to-business market is thriving and has been for more than two decades now. Over these many years we have seen no evidence suggesting that these customers need additional consumer protections as they have not experienced the same issues as the residential retail market.

Calpine urges the General Assembly to preserve the competitive market in its current state for non-residential customers. Attached is amendment language that achieves this result.

Very truly yours,

Jason Weintraub

cc: House Economic Matters Committee Members

HB0267/_____/1

BY: Delegate Crosby

(To be offered in the Economic Matters Committee)

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 267

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1:

On page 3 in lines 16 and 19, on page 10 in line 29, and on page 17 in line 13, in each instance, after "TO" insert "RESIDENTIAL".

On page 6, after line 15, insert:

"(V) THIS PARAGRAPH DOES NOT APPLY TO AN ELECTRICITY SUPPLIER LICENSE THAT AUTHORIZES THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLIER TO SERVE ONLY COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL RETAIL ELECTRIC CUSTOMERS.".

AMENDMENT NO. 2:

On page 12, after line 6, insert:

"(E) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A PERSON THAT OFFERS OR SELLS ELECTRICITY SUPPLY AGREEMENTS OR GAS SUPPLY AGREEMENTS ONLY TO COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMERS IN THE STATE.".

On page 17, in line 16, after "ELECTRICITY" insert "TO A RESIDENTIAL RETAIL ELECTRIC CUSTOMER"; in line 20, after "SUPPLY" insert "TO A RESIDENTIAL RETAIL ELECTRIC CUSTOMER"; in line 25, after the first "RATE", insert "TO A RESIDENTIAL RETAIL ELECTRIC CUSTOMER"; in line 28, after "ENROLLING" insert "RESIDENTIAL RETAIL ELECTRIC"; in line 29, after the first "A" insert "RESIDENTIAL RETAIL ELECTRIC".

On page 18, in line 5, after "A" insert "RESIDENTIAL RETAIL ELECTRIC"; in line 12, after "ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE" insert "ASSOCIATED WITH ACCOUNTS OF RESIDENTIAL RETAIL ELECTRIC CUSTOMERS".

On page 27, in line 28, after "2024" insert "TO SERVE RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS".

On page 28, in line 2, after "SALESPERSONS" insert "<u>THAT SERVE RESIDENTIAL</u> <u>RETAIL CUSTOMERS</u>"; and in line 7, after the second "AGREEMENTS" insert "<u>WITH RESIDENTIAL RETAIL CUSTOMERS</u>".