



TO: Chair Feldman and members, Senate Energy, Education and the Environment Committee
FROM: Kristin Jones Bryce, Chief External Affairs Officer
University of Maryland Medical System
DATE: 1-25-24
RE: Testimony - SB1 *Electricity and Gas – Retail Supply – Regulation and Consumer Protection*

POSITION: FAVORABLE WITH ADMENDMENTS
January 25, 2024

The University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS) submits these comments in **support with amendments** of **SB 1, *Electricity and Gas – Regulation and Consumer Protection***. UMMS supports the goal of this legislation to protect Maryland consumers as they seek to purchase electricity and gas in a market that is often complex and sometimes confusing.

For many years, UMMS has availed itself of Maryland’s competitive retail energy market. The ability to choose and to broker long-term contracts has afforded us significant savings, which ultimately allows the health system to focus more resources on our nonprofit mission. By way of example, over the course of a multi-year contract, UMMS is able to realize millions of dollars of savings by locking in rates in favorable purchasing markets. SB 1 as introduced would restrict the term of an electricity or gas purchasing contract to one year.

UMMS suggests that the spirit and intent of the legislation could be achieved by limiting the scope to apply to residential customers only.

With that amendment, UMMS supports SB 1 and appreciates the opportunity to submit these comments for the Committee’s consideration.