

## SB1 RETAIL ENERGY REFORM SEN. AUGUSTINE, EEE COMMITTEE

HEARING 1/25 1 PM

## PROBLEM

1- Unregulated rates leading to \$1.2 billion overpayments compared to regulated residential energy rates.

2-Continued direct sales focus on low-income ZIP codes, communities of color, and ESL families.

3-Eco-buyers targeted with false promise of clean energy. Get low cost RECs and paid on avg. \$725 more in 2022.

4-Lax regulations leaving PSC and OPC hampered, consumers caught in cross hairs and no reporting.

## SOLUTIONS

5 PILLARS OF REFORM

**1 RATE GUARDRAILS.** 

2 SAFEGUARD VULNERABLE POPULATIONS.

**3 IMPROVE CLEAN ENERGY OFFERS.** 

4 IMPROVE PSC AND OPC REGULATORY OVERSIGHT.

5 IMPROVE MARKET TRANSPARANCY.

# SB1 Pillars & Proposals (page, line #)

#### **Rate guardrails:**

- -Electricity & gas rate can't exceed trailing 12 month SOS avg (17, 13).
- -Contracts only 1 yr in length, no auto renewal, variable rates, no cancel fee (17, 20-30).
- -No purchase of receivables (18,5).
  - -Regulated utilities can market SOS rates. (15, 23).
  - -No retail supply offers for OHEP accounts. (18,4).

### Vulnerable population safeguards:

-Replace Choice ID numbers for "slammed " accounts (18,13).
-Account safeguarded from switching. Account freeze. (18,19)
-Simplify Energy Assistance rate program by keeping all OHEP accounts on regulated SOS/gas commodity offers. (18,4)

#### Green Power Offers (24, 13 - 25, 12)

- -Report RECs amounts and type of generation.
- -RECs purchased from PJM and PJM delivered.
- -Retired in GATS sub account, using same PSC reporting system.
- -Include a consumer discloure that green offer is REC-based.

### Improve PSC and OPC Oversight:

- -Licenses terms now 3 years (6,2) with more authority over who and approval.
- -PSC may revoke or deny license for just cause or OPC complaint
- -PSC can refuse to renew and refuse to renew a salesperson. (6.15)
- -Energy salesperson reforms: (7, 12), No commissions, licensed, trained, certified, 3 year term
- -Can't transfer PSC retailer license to other companies. (12,5)
- -Increase civil penalties to \$25,000. Each complaint can be separate. (9,17) Many new reasons (21, 1-, 29 - 22, 30)

### Reporting: (18, 25 - 19, 20)

- Suppliers required to report monthly, various factors: usage, MW, revenues charged.



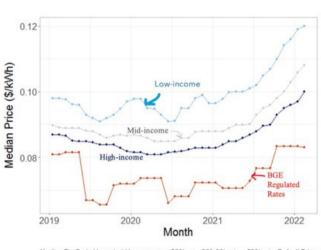
#### MARYLAND'S RESIDENTIAL RETAIL ENERGY OVERPAYMENTS VS. REGULATED UTILITY ELECTRICITY RATES

YEAR	Residential Electricity +	Residential Gas =	E & G Overpayment
2014	\$77 M	\$53 M	\$130 M
2015	\$69 M	\$47 M	\$116 M
2016	\$50 M	\$41 M	\$91 M
2017	\$59 M	\$39 M	\$98 M
2018	\$73 M	\$44 M	\$117 M
2019	\$88 M	\$40 M	\$128 M
2020	\$106 M	\$36 M	\$142 M
2021	\$117 M	\$34M	\$151 M
2022	\$178 M	\$49 M	\$227 M
2014 - 2022 Overpayment Total	\$817 M	\$381 M	\$1.2 B

Electricity Data source is US D.O.E. EIA861. Gas is estimated at 25¢ markup for retail therms sold. EIA data reported every October.

#### MARYLAND'S BGE TERRITORY RESIDENTIAL RETAIL ENERGY KWH RATES COMPARED TO BGE'S REGULATED STANDARD KWH RATE 2019- 2021

Median Prices Over Time by Income Group 16



Median Zip Code Household Income 🔶 <\$60k 🕂 \$60-80k 🛧 >\$80k 🛧 Default Price

Source: https://haas.berkeley.edu/energy-institute/research/abstracts/wp-333/



#### MARYLAND RETAIL ENERGY "100% RENEWABLE" 2022 RESULTS



#### Retail Energy's "a few Bad Actors" Narrative is False

# ACCOUNTS	AVG. SOS KWH CHARGED '21	EXTRA '21 REVENUE ABOVE SOS
1,970,000	8.0 ¢	\$0
370,000	12.1 ¢	+ <b>\$ 178</b> M
80,000	9.0 ¢	\$14 M
63,000	13.5 ¢	\$ 39 M
34,000	10.0 ¢	\$7M
35,000	12.5 ¢	\$16 M
24,000	12.3 ¢	\$11 M
24,000	19.0¢	\$ 27 M
	<b>1,970,000</b> <b>370,000</b> 80,000 63,000 34,000 35,000 24,000	# ACCOUNTS         KWH CHARGED '21           1,970,000         8.0 ¢           370,000         12.1 ¢           370,000         12.1 ¢           63,000         9.0 ¢           63,000         13.5 ¢           34,000         10.0 ¢           35,000         12.5 ¢           24,000         12.3 ¢

Res. Supplier	# Customers	Xtra \$ Paid per Family	Revenues Above SOS
#1 Shell Oil's Inspire	35,000	\$470	\$ 16 million
#2 CleanChoice	27,000	\$1,000	\$ 27 million
#3 Shell's SmartEnergy	6,000	\$875	\$5 million
#4 CleanSky / Titan	6,600	\$485	\$3 million
#5 Clearview	4,000	\$885	\$3 million
#6 M Power	5,000	\$560	\$3 million
#8 NRG - Stream	5,200	\$519	\$4 million
#9 Indra / Palmco	4,000	\$1,060	\$4 million
#10 Tomorrow/Sperian	5,000	\$924	\$5 million
#11 NRG Green Mount	3,400	\$775	\$2 million
#12 Greenlight	3,500	\$775	\$3 million
#13 Vistra - Viridian	2,000	\$820	\$2 million
#14 Spring Energy	1,300	\$1,000	\$1 million
All "Green" Suppliers	108,000	\$725	\$78,000,000

Electricity Data source is US D.O.E. EIA861.