

BILL NUMBER: **HOUSE BILL 1225**
Public Utilities - Electric Distribution System Plans -
Establishment (Affordable Grid Act)

COMMITTEE: **Economic Matters**

HEARING DATE: **February 21, 2025**

SPONSOR: **Delegates Qi, Charkoudian, and Fraser-Hidalgo**

POSITION: **Favorable**

Chair C. T. Wilson, Vice Chair Brian M. Crosby and Members of the Committee,

As a resident of Maryland and a professional electric power engineer I ask for a favorable report.

HB 1225 - Public Utilities - Electric Distribution System Plans - Establishment (Affordable Grid Act) requires the PSC to adopt regulations for electric companies to develop an electric distribution plan. Utilities would further report periodically at specific time frames on their progress achieving the goals of these plans.

The electric system has been compared to the most complicated machine ever invented. The transmission system has received a good deal of news coverage and local consternation with the pressure of datacenter energy demands. But equally important is the distribution system. This is the electricity at below 100 megawatt levels that is stepped down by transformers at local substations to levels suitable for homes and businesses. Proper management of the distribution system is just as important in maintaining reliability and affordable electricity.

This carefully crafted bill empowers the PSC to oversee utility efforts to strengthen and expand the distribution system. I ask for a favorable report.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Law, P.E.

1758 Wheyfield Dr.

Frederick, MD 21701