

Po Box 731 Randallstown, MD 21133

February 18, 2025

Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

2 West Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Support for SB0756-Electric Companies, Gas Companies, Gas and Electric Companies, and Water Companies - Periodic Audits

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Members of the Committee:

The Randallstown NAACP is a 500 member branch located in Baltimore County. Maryland. We have members in Baltimore County and Baltimore City. One of the primary focuses is ensuring the quality of life for all residents, especially black Marylanders.

The Maryland Public Service Commission, (PSC) our leaders and the Randallstown NAACP must focus on working and middle class families. We can not continue to give lip service but our actions must show we care about our working and middle class families in Maryland. There is an onslaught of

increasing prices in grocery and other areas, increases in the BGE bill and water bills. This is an assault on middle class families and Maryland will not survive with a shrinking middle class.

Exelon's 2024 financial Report, shows BGE is making record profits of \$423 million in the last six months of the year. Prices should be more affordable with such surplus income, but BGE continues to increase the rates of Marylanders. This is unbelievable to see how high BGE's rate increases are in one month. It really shows how tone deaf BGE is with continuing to ask for rate increases every year. We have reached a point where BGE is running through the PSC. The PSC has lost sight of its mission to protect Marylanders. It has become an extension of the greed of BGE.

These rate increases are now pushing Baltimore County families to the point of eviction. It's pushing other families to the point of choosing between food, medicine and other necessities to pay their BGE bill. While BGE is racking in record profits. It appears the PSC has tried to do a balancing act that favors BGE. This can not continue!

This bill will ensure that BGE and other utilities are not violating any provision of the Public Utilities Article; and ensure the public welfare. **The Randallstown NAACP supports SB 0756 and requests a favorable vote out of this committee.**

yours

Ryan Coleman
Randallstown NAACP, President
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