

SB0853_RichardKaplowitz_FAV
03/06/2025

Richard Keith Kaplowitz
Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON SB#/0853 – FAVORABLE

Public Service Commission - Transmission Line Siting - Limitations

TO: Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan and members of the Education, Energy and the Environment Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard K. Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#0853, Public Service Commission - Transmission Line Siting - Limitations

This bill seeks to ensure that the construction of new electric transmission lines siting are considered only when the existing right-of-ways are judged as inadequate for that expansion. It seeks to mitigate the environmental and other costs associated with the creation of a new path for transmission lines.

This bill accomplishes this goal by prohibiting the Public Service Commission from authorizing, and a person from undertaking, the construction of an overhead transmission line outside of an existing transmission line right-of-way. This prohibition is in effect unless the applicant adequately demonstrates to the Commission that existing transmission line rights-of-way are not sufficient for the proposed overhead transmission line.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB#0853.