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BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202

February 5, 2026

Honorable Chair Feldman and members of the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment committee,

I write to you in support of Senate Bill 2, Investor-Owned Electric, Gas, and Gas and Electric Companies - Cost Recovery - Limitations.

The 74th Baltimore City Council has hosted and will again host Baltimore Gas and Electric (BGE) in our chambers to discuss the impacts of their skyrocketing rates on Baltimoreans. We have heard from residents telling us nightmares about the impact of recent rate increases on their monthly bills and their ability to live quality lives. One of the stories that has resonated with me most was from an elder who told us of how she was forced to choose carefully between heating her home and plugging in her oxygen tank, for fear of a BGE bill so massive it would financially ruin her. We must do better for those we serve.

According to research from the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE), low-income Baltimore ratepayers have among the highest financial burden from energy bills in the country—**1 in 4 of these residents pay more than the recommended 15% of their income in energy bills**¹. In a time when affordability is on the lips of every serious elected official and prices seem to rise every day, it's our responsibility to do what we can to level the economic playing field.

What Senate Bill 2 offers is a big step towards ensuring accountability and transparency in rate-setting and profit utilization. This legislation can help us all ensure that all of us, cost-burdened ratepayers alike, are not shouldering the burden of private sector bonuses and executive salaries. While the legislature continues to debate this bill and HB 1, the Baltimore City Council will host another hearing on February 11 at 5:30p to investigate both safety and affordability for our residents under BGE. It is heartening to see state and local government aligned in taking up this important work.

For all these reasons, **I urge the committee to vote favorably on this bill.** Please contact my office with any further questions.

CC: Shamoyia Gardiner, Deputy Chief of Staff and Legislative Director

¹ *Energy Burdens in Baltimore*, ACEEE. September 2020. [aceee-01_energy_burden_-_baltimore.pdf](#)