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February 10, 2026

SUPPORT HB 540 Investor-Owned Electric, Gas, and Gas and Electric Companies - Utility Rate Changes (Public Service Company Transparency Act)

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee:

Maryland LCV Supports HB 540, The Public Service Company Transparency Act and we thank Delegate Lehman for her leadership on this issue.

Electricity bills are skyrocketing and Maryland LCV is supportive of a number of initiatives to increase transparency and accountability with utilities. HB 540 requires gas and electric utilities to let ratepayers know when they plan to ask the Public Service Commission (PSC) for an increase in rates. The bill requires utilities to notify customers through a bill insert or e-mail that they are initiating a proceeding with the PSC that may lead to a rate change; what the relevant procedural dates are; and where to find information about the rate change on the PSC website. This level of information and the timing of information provided are important as people try to navigate the reasons behind their increasing bills.

Maryland LCV urges a favorable report on HB 540.