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## PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chair Marc Korman  
Environment and Transportation Committee  
250 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

### **RE: HB 54 - Information - Task Force to Study Restructuring Maryland's Electric Utility Industry**

Dear Chair Korman and Committee Members:

The Public Service Commission (the “Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to provide this informational testimony for HB 54. HB 54 establishes a Task Force for the purpose of studying and making recommendations on restructuring the State’s electric utility industry.

Recommendations are due to the General Assembly by November 1, 2027. The Commission is tasked with serving as the Chair of the Task Force and providing staff for the Task Force.

The Task Force will be required to complete a number of high level, complicated analyses in order to make recommendations. Although the members of the Task Force will bring a wide variety of expertise, the scope and type of analysis needed will require specialized software and highly technical examination. Therefore, the Commission will engage the services of a consultant. Based on similar recent consultant contracts undertaken by the Commission, the fee for the consultant could approach \$1 million.

The Commission would also like to indicate some procedural factors that could have an impact on the goals of the bill so that the Committee may address them if it deems necessary. In the Commission’s experience participating in and running numerous task forces and workgroups, it has found that large membership groups—especially those that contain members with a vested financial interest in the outcome—often have difficulties reaching a meaningful consensus on recommendations. Where the bill calls for several members of the task force that represent similar interests—such as multiple Exelon owned utilities, multiple municipal utility companies, and multiple ratepayer advocates—the Committee could consider consolidating some of the membership to streamline the operations of the Task Force. Additionally, the Commission notes that it can invite the participation of those entities included in the bill over which it does not have regulatory authority, such as Constellation and PJM, but it cannot compel their participation in the Task Force.

Please contact Niki Wiggins, Director of Legislative Affairs, at [irene.wiggins3@maryland.gov](mailto:irene.wiggins3@maryland.gov) if you have any questions related to this informational testimony.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kumar", with a stylized flourish underneath.

Kumar P. Barve  
Chair, Maryland Public Service Commission