

# SENATE BILL 1044

C5

(4lr3242)

## ENROLLED BILL

— Finance/Economic Matters —

Introduced by ~~Senator Middleton~~ Senators Middleton and Benson

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President.

### CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Service Commission – Competitive Retail Electricity and Gas Supply –**  
3 **Consumer Protection – Report**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Public Service Commission to submit a certain  
5 report to the General Assembly on or before a certain date on the status of the  
6 Commission’s efforts to provide appropriate protections for consumers in  
7 connection with competitive retail electricity supply and retail gas supply and  
8 recommendations regarding ratepayer protections; specifying the contents of  
9 the report; requiring the Commission to convene a certain workgroup for a  
10 certain purpose; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating  
11 to consumer protection in connection with competitive retail electricity and gas  
12 supply.

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
14 MARYLAND, That:

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#### EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

*Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.*



1 (a) On or before January 1, 2015, the Public Service Commission shall  
2 submit a report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State  
3 Government Article, on the status of the Commission's efforts to provide appropriate  
4 protections for consumers in connection with competitive retail gas supply and  
5 competitive retail electricity supply, and recommendations as to how to better protect  
6 ratepayers.

7 (b) The report shall include information and recommendations concerning:

8 (1) the adequacy of the Commission's current retail electricity and gas  
9 customer choice consumer protection regulations;

10 (2) the adequacy of the Commission's enforcement of current  
11 electricity and gas customer choice consumer protection laws and regulations;

12 (3) whether to require further safeguards in connection with the  
13 verification of retail electricity or gas contracts;

14 (4) whether to require further safeguards in connection with consumer  
15 comprehension of retail electricity or gas contracts;

16 (5) whether to require licensing of individuals who sell or facilitate the  
17 sale of retail electricity or gas contracts;

18 (6) any other issues the Commission considers relevant to these  
19 issues; and

20 (7) whether legislation is necessary to further any recommendations  
21 in the report, and if so, shall include draft legislation of any necessary statutory  
22 changes.

23 (c) The Commission shall convene a workgroup of interested persons,  
24 including retail electricity suppliers, to advise the Commission on the information and  
25 recommendations that should be included in the report.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
27 June 1, 2014. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 2 months and, at the  
28 end of July 31, 2015, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this  
29 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.