

SENATE BILL 603

C5

0lr2750
CF 0lr2836

By: **Senator Feldman**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2020

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Service Commission – Electricity and Gas Suppliers – Training and**
3 **Educational Program**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Public Service Commission to develop a training and
5 educational program for certain licensed energy suppliers; requiring the Commission
6 to develop the program in consultation with certain interested stakeholders;
7 requiring certain designated representatives to demonstrate a thorough
8 understanding of certain Commission regulations; requiring the Commission to
9 conduct an examination at the conclusion of training and provide certification on a
10 satisfactory score; requiring the Commission to determine the schedule and
11 frequency of certain training and certification; requiring certain licensed suppliers
12 to complete certain training and certification prior to the issuance of a license;
13 authorizing the Commission to adopt certain regulations; requiring the Commission
14 to use certain assessments to fund the initial development of the program;
15 authorizing the Commission to establish certain fees to pay for program costs; and
16 generally relating to training and education for energy suppliers.

17 BY adding to
18 Article – Public Utilities
19 Section 7–311
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

22 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
23 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

24 **Article – Public Utilities**

25 **7–311.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(A) THE COMMISSION SHALL DEVELOP A TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL**
2 **PROGRAM FOR ANY ENTITY OR INDIVIDUAL THAT IS LICENSED BY THE COMMISSION**
3 **AS AN ELECTRICITY SUPPLIER OR A GAS SUPPLIER.**

4 **(B) THE COMMISSION SHALL DEVELOP THE PROGRAM IN CONSULTATION**
5 **WITH INTERESTED STAKEHOLDERS, INCLUDING ELECTRICITY SUPPLIERS AND GAS**
6 **SUPPLIERS.**

7 **(C) THE PROGRAM SHALL REQUIRE THAT A DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE**
8 **OF EACH LICENSED ELECTRICITY SUPPLIER OR LICENSED GAS SUPPLIER**
9 **DEMONSTRATE A THOROUGH UNDERSTANDING OF THE COMMISSION'S**
10 **REGULATIONS REGARDING:**

11 **(1) SALES;**

12 **(2) CONSUMER PROTECTION; AND**

13 **(3) ANY OTHER MATTER THE COMMISSION DEEMS APPROPRIATE.**

14 **(D) AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TRAINING, THE COMMISSION SHALL:**

15 **(1) CONDUCT AN EXAMINATION; AND**

16 **(2) ON A SATISFACTORY SCORE, CERTIFY THAT THE DESIGNATED**
17 **REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LICENSED ELECTRICITY SUPPLIER OR LICENSED GAS**
18 **SUPPLIER HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE TRAINING.**

19 **(E) (1) THE COMMISSION SHALL DETERMINE THE SCHEDULE AND**
20 **FREQUENCY BY WHICH A DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE OF A LICENSED**
21 **ELECTRICITY SUPPLIER OR LICENSED GAS SUPPLIER MUST COMPLETE THE**
22 **TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION.**

23 **(2) A DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE OF A NEW ELECTRICITY**
24 **SUPPLIER OR GAS SUPPLIER SHALL COMPLETE THE TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION**
25 **PRIOR TO THE ISSUANCE OF A LICENSE.**

26 **(F) THE COMMISSION MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT INCLUDE**
27 **APPROPRIATE PENALTIES OR SANCTIONS FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS**
28 **SECTION.**

29 **(G) (1) THE COMMISSION SHALL USE THE ASSESSMENTS COLLECTED IN**
30 **ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-110 OF THIS ARTICLE FOR THE INITIAL DEVELOPMENT OF**
31 **THE TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.**

1 **(2) THE COMMISSION MAY ESTABLISH REASONABLE FEES TO PAY**
2 **FOR THE COSTS OF THE PROGRAM.**

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 2020.