

SENATE BILL 676

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By: **Senators Kelley, Beidle, Feldman, Hayes, and Kramer**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Service Commission – Public Utility Regulation Fund – Cap**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing the maximum that may be charged to certain public service
4 companies for a State fiscal year to reimburse the Public Service Commission for
5 certain costs and expenses; and generally relating to public service companies and
6 the Public Utility Regulation Fund.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article – Public Utilities
9 Section 2–110(a) and (b)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Public Utilities
14 Section 2–110(c)(12)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Public Utilities**

20 2–110.

21 (a) In this section, “public service company” includes an electricity supplier and a
22 gas supplier as those terms are defined in § 1–101 of this article.

23 (b) (1) The costs and expenses of the Commission and the Office of People’s
24 Counsel shall be borne by the public service companies that are subject to the Commission’s

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 jurisdiction.

2 (2) The costs and expenses shall be assessed as provided in this section.

3 (3) The Commission shall pay the money that it collects for the assessment
4 under this section into the Public Utility Regulation Fund in the State Treasury established
5 under § 2–110.1 of this subtitle to reimburse the State for the expenses of the Commission
6 and the Office of People’s Counsel.

7 (c) (12) The total amount that may be charged to a public service company
8 under this section for a State fiscal year may not exceed:

9 (i) ~~[0.17%]~~ **0.25%** of the public service company’s gross operating
10 revenues derived from intrastate utility and electricity supplier operations in the preceding
11 calendar year, or other 12–month period that the Chairman determines, for the costs and
12 expenses of the Commission other than that of the Office of People’s Counsel; plus

13 (ii) 0.05% of those revenues for the costs and expenses of the Office
14 of People’s Counsel.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
16 1, 2020.