

**SB0754/967677/1**

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 754  
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “Senator Hayes” and substitute “Senators Hayes, Kelley, and Augustine”; in line 2, strike “**Fines**” and substitute “**Study**”; strike beginning with “notify” in line 3 down through “section;” in line 11 and substitute “convene a workgroup of interested persons to study utility, telecommunication, and other lines in the State; requiring the workgroup to examine certain matters relating to utility, telecommunication, and other lines; requiring the Commission to report to the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act;”; in line 11, after “to” insert “the Public Service Commission convening a workgroup to study”; strike in their entirety lines 14 through 18, inclusive; and in line 20, strike “the Laws of Maryland read as follows”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 1 and 2, strike the lines beginning with line 21 on page 1 through line 15 on page 2, and substitute:

“(a) The Public Service Commission shall convene a workgroup of interested persons to study damaged, dangling, obsolete, or redundant utility, telecommunication, or other lines, or blight or public nuisance caused by an excessive number of lines on utility poles in Maryland.

(b) In conducting the study, the workgroup shall examine:

(1) the prevalence in the State of:

(i) damaged or dangling utility, telecommunication, and other lines;

(Over)

(ii) obsolete or redundant utility, telecommunication, or other lines; and

(iii) blight or public nuisance caused by an excessive number of lines on a utility pole;

(2) the process for investigating, repairing, and removing:

(i) a damaged, dangling, obsolete, or redundant line; or

(ii) blight or public nuisance caused by an excessive number of lines on utility poles;

(3) the potential for the Commission to impose a fine on an owner of a utility pole or other entity for failing to investigate, repair, or remove an offending utility line or lines;

(4) the resources necessary to effectively regulate utility pole lines in the State; and

(5) any additional issues related to utility, telecommunication, or other lines in the State.

(c) On or before December 31, 2021, the Public Service Commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article.”.

On page 2, in line 17, strike “October 1, 2021.” and substitute “July 1, 2021. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2022, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.