

# SENATE BILL 79

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(PRE-FILED)

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CF HB 473

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By: **Senator Kramer**

Requested: October 27, 2020

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2021

Assigned to: Finance

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 10, 2021

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

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Electricity – Change of Address – Maintenance of Subscriptions and Contracts**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a subscriber to a community solar energy generating  
4 system who has a change in the service address associated with the subscription to  
5 maintain the subscription under certain circumstances; prohibiting an electric  
6 company or a subscription organization from terminating a subscriber's subscription  
7 due to a change of a certain address under certain circumstances; requiring an  
8 electric company to make certain changes to accommodate a subscriber's change of  
9 address under certain circumstances; authorizing a residential electric customer who  
10 has a change in the service address associated with the customer's electricity account  
11 to maintain a certain contract under certain circumstances; prohibiting an electric  
12 company from terminating a customer's contract due to a change of a certain address  
13 under certain circumstances; requiring an electric company to make certain changes  
14 to accommodate a customer's change of address under certain circumstances;  
15 providing for the application of this Act; providing for a delayed effective date; and  
16 generally relating to electricity supply.

17 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
18 Article – Public Utilities  
19 Section 7–306.2(a)(1) and (4) through (7)  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

22 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

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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.



1 Article – Public Utilities  
2 Section 7–306.2(f) and (g)  
3 Annotated Code of Maryland  
4 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

5 BY adding to  
6 Article – Public Utilities  
7 Section 7–312  
8 Annotated Code of Maryland  
9 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

12 **Article – Public Utilities**

13 7–306.2.

14 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

15 (4) “Program” means the Community Solar Energy Generating Systems  
16 Pilot Program.

17 (5) “Subscriber” means a retail customer of an electric company that:

18 (i) holds a subscription to a community solar energy generating  
19 system; and

20 (ii) has identified one or more individual meters or accounts to which  
21 the subscription shall be attributed.

22 (6) “Subscriber organization” means:

23 (i) a person that owns or operates a community solar energy  
24 generating system; or

25 (ii) the collective group of subscribers of a community solar energy  
26 generating system.

27 (7) “Subscription” means the portion of the electricity generated by a  
28 community solar energy generating system that is credited to a subscriber.

29 (d) (1) (i) The Commission shall establish a pilot program for a Community  
30 Solar Energy Generating System Program.

31 (f) (1) Subject to regulations or orders of the Commission, a contract relating  
32 to a community solar energy generating system or subscriber organization that is entered

1 into during the pilot program shall remain in effect according to the terms of the contract,  
2 including after the termination of the pilot program.

3 **(2) (I) THIS PARAGRAPH APPLIES TO ELECTRIC COMPANIES,**  
4 **ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES, AND MUNICIPAL UTILITIES THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE**  
5 **PROGRAM.**

6 **(II) A SUBSCRIBER WHO HAS A CHANGE IN THE SERVICE**  
7 **ADDRESS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SUBSCRIBER'S SUBSCRIPTION MAY MAINTAIN THE**  
8 **SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE NEW ADDRESS IF THE NEW ADDRESS IS WITHIN THE SAME**  
9 **ELECTRIC TERRITORY AS THE OLD ADDRESS.**

10 **(III) AN ELECTRIC COMPANY OR A SUBSCRIBER ORGANIZATION**  
11 **MAY NOT TERMINATE A SUBSCRIBER'S SUBSCRIPTION DUE TO A CHANGE OF**  
12 **ADDRESS FOR THE SERVICE ADDRESS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SUBSCRIPTION IF THE**  
13 **REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH ARE MET.**

14 **(IV) AN ELECTRIC COMPANY SHALL MAKE ANY CHANGES**  
15 **NECESSARY TO ACCOMMODATE A SUBSCRIBER'S CHANGE OF ADDRESS ON**  
16 **NOTIFICATION BY A SUBSCRIBER ORGANIZATION.**

17 **(G) [(2)]** After termination of the pilot program, in accordance with the  
18 operational and billing requirements in subsection (d) of this section:

19 **[(i)] (1)** a subscriber organization may continue the operation of a  
20 community solar energy generating system that began operation during the pilot program,  
21 including the creation and trading of subscriptions; and

22 **[(ii)] (2)** in accordance with the tariffs established under  
23 subsection (e)(2) of this section, an electric company shall continue to facilitate the  
24 operation of a community solar energy generating system that began operation during the  
25 pilot program.

26 **[(g)] (H)** The cumulative installed nameplate capacity under the pilot program  
27 shall count toward the overall limitation of 1,500 megawatts for all net metering projects  
28 in § 7-306(d) of this subtitle.

29 **7-312.**

30 **(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO ELECTRIC COMPANIES, ELECTRIC**  
31 **COOPERATIVES, AND MUNICIPAL UTILITIES THAT OFFER CUSTOMER CHOICE FOR**  
32 **COMPETITIVE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY UNDER SUBTITLE 5 OF THIS TITLE.**

33 **(B) A RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC CUSTOMER WHO HAS A CHANGE IN THE**  
34 **SERVICE ADDRESS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CUSTOMER'S ELECTRICITY ACCOUNT MAY**

1 MAINTAIN THE CUSTOMER’S COMPETITIVE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CONTRACT FOR  
2 THE NEW ADDRESS IF THE NEW ADDRESS IS WITHIN THE SAME ELECTRIC TERRITORY  
3 AS THE OLD ADDRESS.

4 (C) AN ELECTRIC COMPANY MAY NOT TERMINATE A CUSTOMER’S  
5 CONTRACT DUE TO A CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR THE SERVICE ADDRESS ASSOCIATED  
6 WITH THE CONTRACT IF THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS  
7 SECTION ARE MET.

8 (D) AN ELECTRIC COMPANY SHALL MAKE ANY CHANGES NECESSARY TO  
9 ACCOMMODATE A CUSTOMER’S CHANGE OF ADDRESS ON NOTIFICATION BY THE  
10 CUSTOMER.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
12 ~~October 1, 2021~~ July 1, 2022.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.