

SENATE BILL 756

C5

5lr3282

By: **Senator A. Washington**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Electric Companies, Gas Companies, Gas and Electric Companies, and Water**
3 **Companies – Periodic Audits**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring each electric company, gas company, gas and electric
5 company, and water company in the State to submit a certain audit to the Public
6 Service Commission with a certain frequency; requiring the Commission to post the
7 audit on its website; and generally relating to audits of public service companies.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Public Utilities

10 Section 7–108

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Public Utilities**

16 **7–108.**

17 **(A) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2026, AND EACH DECEMBER 31 EVERY 3**
18 **YEARS THEREAFTER, EACH ELECTRIC COMPANY, GAS COMPANY, GAS AND ELECTRIC**
19 **COMPANY, AND WATER COMPANY SHALL SUBMIT TO THE COMMISSION AN AUDIT OF**
20 **UTILITY OPERATIONS, CUSTOMER USAGE, AND CUSTOMER BILLING.**

21 **(B) THE AUDIT SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR THE**
22 **IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING 3 YEARS:**

23 **(1) CUSTOMER RATE INCREASES OR DECREASES;**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(2) AN ANALYSIS OF THE FACTORS THAT LED TO ANY RATE INCREASES**
2 **OR DECREASES;**

3 **(3) CUSTOMER USAGE PATTERNS;**

4 **(4) CUSTOMER BILLING INCREASES OR DECREASES;**

5 **(5) A DESCRIPTION OF AND ANY CHANGES TO THE COMPANY'S**
6 **BILLING PRACTICES AND POLICIES, INCLUDING ANY FORMS USED; AND**

7 **(6) ANY OTHER INFORMATION THE COMMISSION REQUIRES.**

8 **(C) THE COMMISSION SHALL:**

9 **(1) DETERMINE THE FORMAT OF THE AUDIT REPORTING REQUIRED**
10 **UNDER THIS SECTION; AND**

11 **(2) PUBLISH EACH AUDIT SUBMITTED UNDER THIS SECTION ON ITS**
12 **WEBSITE.**

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 October 1, 2025.