

HOUSE BILL 859

C5, O2

2lr2201

By: **Delegates Conaway, Glenn, McDonough, and B. Robinson**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2012

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Electric Companies – Interruption of Service – Reporting to Adult Protective**
3 **Services**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring an electric company to report an interruption of service
5 for certain customers due to a failure to pay an electric bill to the adult
6 protective services program under certain circumstances; requiring an electric
7 company to notify customers about the reporting requirement in each bill; and
8 generally relating to the reporting of an interruption of service by an electric
9 company.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Public Utilities

12 Section 7–309

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Public Utilities**

18 **7–309.**

19 **(A) AN ELECTRIC COMPANY SHALL REPORT AN INTERRUPTION OF**
20 **SERVICE TO THE ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES PROGRAM UNDER TITLE 14 OF**
21 **THE FAMILY LAW ARTICLE IF:**

22 **(1) THE CUSTOMER HAS NOTIFIED THE ELECTRIC COMPANY THAT**
23 **THE CUSTOMER IS AT LEAST 65 YEARS OF AGE;**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(2) THE INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE IS DUE TO A FAILURE TO PAY**
2 **AN ELECTRIC BILL; AND**

3 **(3) THE CUSTOMER'S SERVICE HAS NOT BEEN INTERRUPTED IN**
4 **THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS DUE TO A FAILURE TO PAY AN ELECTRIC BILL.**

5 **(B) AN ELECTRIC COMPANY SHALL INCLUDE A NOTICE IN EACH BILL**
6 **THAT THE ELECTRIC COMPANY WILL REPORT THE FIRST INTERRUPTION IN**
7 **SERVICE DUE TO A FAILURE TO PAY AN ELECTRIC BILL TO ADULT PROTECTIVE**
8 **SERVICES AS A PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE FOR THE CUSTOMER'S BENEFIT IF:**

9 **(1) THE CUSTOMER IS AT LEAST 65 YEARS OF AGE AND HAS**
10 **NOTIFIED THE ELECTRIC COMPANY OF THAT FACT; AND**

11 **(2) THE CUSTOMER'S SERVICE HAS NOT BEEN INTERRUPTED IN**
12 **THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS DUE TO A FAILURE TO PAY AN ELECTRIC BILL.**

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 October 1, 2012.