

**STATE OF MARYLAND**  
**OFFICE OF PEOPLE’S COUNSEL**  
**Paula M. Carmody, People’s Counsel**  
6 St. Paul Street, Suite 2102  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202  
410-767-8150; 800-207-4055  
[www.opc.maryland.gov](http://www.opc.maryland.gov)

**BILL NO.:** House Bill 886  
**Electric Companies – Billing Information**

**COMMITTEE:** Economic Matters

**HEARING DATE:** February 20, 2020

**SPONSOR:** Delegates Howard, et al.

**POSITION:** Informational

---

The Office of People’s Counsel (OPC) provides informational comments on House Bill 886. House Bill 886 would require Electric Companies to provide historic usage and billing information to customers in three forms: 1) on the utility website, 2) provided electronically in a searchable PDF format, or 3) as a physical document sent to the customer’s billing address. OPC does not object to a requirement that this information be made available to customers. However, the Bill contains the phrase “IN THE FORM REQUESTED BY THE CUSTOMER.” If this language is read to require all Maryland utilities to make this information available in all three forms, it may result in small electric cooperatives or municipal utilities incurring significant costs to create a website capability to provide this information if a customer makes such a request. In order to prevent unnecessary expenditures by these utilities, OPC recommends that cooperative and municipal utilities be exempted from the requirement to provide this information in the form requested by the customer.