

HOUSE BILL 1490

L6, C5

8lr3043

By: **Delegate A. Washington**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2018

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Local Government – Overhead Transmission Lines – Property Maintenance**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a county or municipality to enact a law that establishes
4 certain standards and requirements for a certain electric company to follow to
5 maintain a certain property on which an overhead transmission line is located;
6 specifying that certain standards and requirements may relate to certain
7 maintenance and securement on certain property; authorizing a county or
8 municipality to impose a certain penalty; defining certain terms; and generally
9 relating to the maintenance of property and overhead transmission lines.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Local Government
12 Section 1–1312
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2013 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Local Government**

18 **1–1312.**

19 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
20 **INDICATED.**

21 **(2) “ELECTRIC COMPANY” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 1–101 OF**
22 **THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ARTICLE.**

23 **(3) “OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINE” MEANS A TRANSMISSION LINE**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 THAT IS DESIGNED TO CARRY A VOLTAGE IN EXCESS OF **69,000** VOLTS AND IS OWNED
2 BY THE ELECTRIC COMPANY THAT SERVES THE ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION SERVICE
3 TERRITORY WHERE THE TRANSMISSION LINE IS LOCATED.

4 (B) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO ALL COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES.

5 (C) (1) A COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY MAY ENACT A LAW THAT
6 ESTABLISHES STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR AN ELECTRIC COMPANY TO
7 FOLLOW TO MAINTAIN THE PROPERTY ON WHICH AN OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION
8 LINE IS LOCATED.

9 (2) THE STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED UNDER
10 PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION MAY RELATE TO:

11 (I) THE MAINTENANCE OF ANY STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT
12 ON THE PROPERTY SO THAT THE STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT:

- 13 1. ARE IN GOOD PHYSICAL AND SAFE CONDITION; AND
14 2. ARE GRAFFITI-FREE;

15 (II) THE MAINTENANCE OF THE GROUNDS OF THE PROPERTY SO
16 THAT THE GROUNDS:

- 17 1. ARE FREE OF LITTER, GARBAGE, AND RUBBISH;
18 2. ARE SANITARY; AND
19 3. DO NOT HAVE UNCONTROLLED WEED GROWTH; AND

20 (III) THE SECUREMENT OF THE PREMISES OF THE PROPERTY
21 AND ITS APPURTENANCES TO PREVENT TRESPASSERS.

22 (D) A COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY THAT ENACTS A LAW UNDER SUBSECTION
23 (C) OF THIS SECTION MAY IMPOSE A CIVIL PENALTY OF UP TO **\$500** FOR A FIRST
24 VIOLATION AND UP TO **\$1,000** FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT VIOLATION.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
26 October 1, 2018.