

## Chapter 265

**(House Bill 473)**

AN ACT concerning

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

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

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Public Utilities

Section 7–306.2(a)(1) and (4) through (7) and (d)(1)(i)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2020 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Public Utilities

Section 7–306.2(f) and (g)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2020 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Public Utilities

Section 7–312

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2020 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

**Article – Public Utilities**

7-306.2.

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

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

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

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

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

(6) “Subscriber organization” means:

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

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

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

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

(f) (1) Subject to regulations or orders of the Commission, a contract relating to a community solar energy generating system or subscriber organization that is entered into during the pilot program shall remain in effect according to the terms of the contract, including after the termination of the pilot program.

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

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

**(III) AN ELECTRIC COMPANY OR A SUBSCRIBER ORGANIZATION MAY NOT TERMINATE A SUBSCRIBER’S SUBSCRIPTION DUE TO A CHANGE OF**

**ADDRESS FOR THE SERVICE ADDRESS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SUBSCRIPTION IF THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH ARE MET.**

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

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

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

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

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

**7-312.**

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

**(B) A RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC CUSTOMER WHO HAS A CHANGE IN THE SERVICE ADDRESS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CUSTOMER'S ELECTRICITY ACCOUNT MAY MAINTAIN THE CUSTOMER'S COMPETITIVE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CONTRACT FOR THE NEW ADDRESS IF THE NEW ADDRESS IS WITHIN THE SAME ELECTRIC TERRITORY AS THE OLD ADDRESS.**

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

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

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

**Approved by the Governor, May 18, 2021.**