

SENATE BILL 2008

I3

6lr5068

By: **Chair, Finance Committee**

Introduced and read first time: January 7, 2026

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **ITO Testing**

3 FOR the purpose of ITO Testing

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

6 **Article – Public Utilities**

7 7–511.

8 (a) Except for electric cooperatives and municipal electric utilities:

9 (1) competitive billing shall begin on July 1, 2000;

10 (2) competitive metering for large customers shall begin on January 1,
11 2002; and

12 (3) competitive metering for all other customers shall begin on April 1,
13 2002, or earlier if requested by the electric company.

14 (b) The Commission shall adopt regulations or issue orders to implement this
15 section.

16 (c) (1) A person other than an electric company or a municipal electric utility
17 may not engage in the business of competitive billing services in a local jurisdiction that
18 assesses a local energy tax, unless the person holds a license issued by that jurisdiction.

19 (2) An application for a local competitive billing services license shall be
20 made in accordance with the requirements of the local jurisdiction.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (3) (i) A local jurisdiction may require an applicant or licensee to:
- 2 1. hold a license issued by the Commission, as provided
3 under § 7–507 of this subtitle;
- 4 2. post a bond or other similar instrument in an amount
5 equal to 15% of the bond required under § 7–507 of this subtitle; and
- 6 3. have a resident agent in the State.
- 7 (ii) A local jurisdiction may not require an applicant or licensee to
8 pay a fee or other charge for the local license.
- 9 (d) (1) A local jurisdiction may revoke or suspend the local license if the
10 licensee fails, within 15 days of the due date established by the local jurisdiction, to pay or
11 remit all of the applicable local energy taxes on services.
- 12 (2) A local jurisdiction may reinstate the license after payment of all local
13 energy taxes due.
- 14 (3) A local jurisdiction may choose not to reinstate a license that has been
15 revoked or suspended 3 times in a 12–month period.
- 16 (4) A local jurisdiction shall report any revocation or suspension of a license
17 to the Commission.
- 18 (e) The Commission shall adopt regulations or issue an order to establish
19 procedures for the assumption of billing responsibilities by the electric company that
20 distributes electricity in the relevant service territory if a local license is revoked or
21 suspended.
- 22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
23 October 1, 2026.