

For the reasons set forth in my veto message regarding Senate Bill 1036, I have decided also to veto Senate Bill 1037.

Sincerely,
Harry Hughes
Governor

Senate Bill No. 1052

AN ACT concerning

Electric Companies - Fuel Rate Costs

~~FOR the purpose of providing that the actual cost of fuel of an electric company shall be determined through testimony produced at monthly public hearings held by the Public Service Commission.~~ FOR the purpose of requiring an electric company to have as part of its rates to all customers a separately stated, zero-based, fuel rate wherein it charges for its actual costs of fuel computed on a kilowatt-hour basis which shall be printed separately on the face of the bill.

May 29, 1979

Honorable James Clark, Jr.
President of the Senate
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed Senate Bill 1052.

The intent of the original legislation was to impose stricter standards on fuel-rate adjustments by electric companies. However, during the legislative process one amendment to the bill substituted "shall" for "may" thereby accomplishing the undesirable result of requiring that an electric company impose a fuel-rate adjustment on its customers, even if the company has no wish to impose the adjustment. Thus, the approval of this measure would insure the continuation of a practice which allows added costs to be passed on to consumers.

Under our present system fuel-rate adjustments can be applied to customer's bills only with the consent of the