

Council Bill 06-0152R

1 Several bills have been introduced in the Maryland General Assembly to mitigate the
2 expected increases. Some of these proposals would phase in the increases over a number of
3 years or modify rates so that consumers' bills would be averaged out over a billing period; others
4 call for delaying rate increases until after the merger is approved, and still another would allow
5 consumers to defer a portion of the increased rates but would force them to repay the utility
6 company with interest.

7 Before the City Council can take a position on the proposed legislation, it is imperative that
8 the Council and the constituents it represents fully understand the many ramifications of the
9 change in delivery of utility service.

10 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
11 Maryland People's Counsel, the President of BGE, and the Chairman of the Maryland Public
12 Service Commission are urgently requested to brief the City Council on the effects of
13 deregulation of electric utilities in Maryland and the resultant increase in the cost of utilities to
14 Baltimore consumers.

15 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
16 Maryland People's Counsel, the President of BGE, the Chairman of the Maryland Public Service
17 Commission, the Executive Director of the Commission on Aging and Retirement Education, the
18 Director of the Baltimore City Department of Social Services, and the Mayor's Legislative
19 Liaison to the City Council.