COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
Legislative Session 2025, Legislative Day No. 5

Resolution No. 16-25

All Councilmembers

By the County Council, March 3, 2025

A RESOLUTION of the Baltimore County Council supporting families and businesses in Baltimore County and the region that face unaffordable increases in their energy costs, and urging State leadership to take every action available to protect everyday Marylanders and business owners from surging BGE bills.

WHEREAS, since December, 2024, the pages of Baltimore area news outlets have overflowed with stories of outraged residents in Baltimore and around Maryland who cannot afford their BGE bills – especially for natural gas – and are in danger of losing their power; and

WHEREAS, this unaffordability crisis transcends socio-economic boundaries and has hit businesses just as hard as average residential consumers, with double-digit and even triple-digit increases over last year for nearly every BGE customer; and

WHEREAS, according to a report issued in June, 2024 from the Maryland Office of the People's Counsel, BGE has more than tripled the rate it charges for natural gas delivery since 2010 – from $0.26 per therm to $0.85 per therm in 2024 – with an additional 12.4% increase expected by June, 2025 for BGE customers with combined gas and electric; and

WHEREAS, State leaders are considering bipartisan action, such as legislative avenues for immediate and longer-term solutions including the Ratepayer Protection Act; the Empowering New Energy Resources and Green Initiatives Toward a Zero-Emission (ENERGIZE) Maryland

Act; and the Abundant, Affordable Clean Energy Act, which are currently pending before the Maryland General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, residents and businesses across the Baltimore region need immediate help to cope with crippling energy costs, and to heat their homes and commercial spaces in dangerously cold weather; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Baltimore County Council offers its unwavering support for families and businesses in Baltimore County and the region that are facing unaffordable increases in their energy costs, and urges State leadership to take every action available to protect everyday Marylanders and business owners from surging BGE bills; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council encourages the Governor and the General Assembly to work towards establishing an energy plan and timeline that details the State of Maryland's transition from fossil fuels and importing out-of-state energy to sustainable and renewable energy, while balancing the affordability and reliability that all Maryland residents require; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Governor of Maryland; the Baltimore County delegation to the Maryland General Assembly; and the Baltimore County Executive; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect from the date of its passage by the County Council.

LEGISLATION DETAIL

LEGISLATION	RESOLUTION 16-25
DISPOSITION	PASSED
ENACTED	N/A
EFFECTIVE	N/A
AMENDMENTS	NO

ROLL CALL - BILL

MOTION KACH SECOND JONES

AYE	NAY	
☑	☐	Councilman Young
☑	☐	Councilman Patoka
☑	☐	Councilman Kach
☑	☐	Councilman Jones
☑	☐	Councilman Marks
☑	☐	Councilman Ertel
☑	☐	Councilman Crandell

ROLL CALL - AMENDMENTS

MOTION SECOND

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