

arrangement, or understanding, express or implied, whereby the operator of a taxicab pays a fixed or determinable sum for the use thereof and is entitled to all or a portion of the proceeds arising from its operation.

43. (Construction of Taxicab Provisions.)

(a) This subheading, relating to taxicab companies, is intended to be supplemental to and not in substitution for existing laws relating to the operation and licensing of motor vehicles. Particularly, nothing in said subtitle shall be construed to limit any power now held by political subdivisions of this state to adopt reasonable traffic regulations such as the designation of taxicab stands and the restriction or prohibition of cruising along the public streets when such cruising would menace the public safety or unduly congest traffic.

(b) Nothing in this Article relating to taxicabs, or in any public local law heretofore passed shall be construed as divesting or limiting the jurisdiction of the commission over any taxicab company as a common carrier, although operating elsewhere than in incorporated cities or towns having a population of more than 50,000 persons.

Gas and Electric Companies

44. (Meters.)

No person shall furnish or put in use any gas meter unless it has been inspected, proved and sealed, or any electric meter unless it has been inspected, approved, and stamped or marked, by the commission. Every gas and electric company shall maintain in an appropriate place a suitable apparatus, approved, and stamped or marked by the commission, for testing the accuracy of gas and electric meters furnished by it for use. On the written request of any consumer, his meter shall be tested thereby, in his presence if he desires.

45. (Meters—Inspection.)

Any consumer may, by written request, compel an inspection and test of his meter by the commission. If an electric meter is incorrect to the prejudice of the consumer by as much as four per cent or a gas meter by as much as two per cent, the commission shall order the substitution of a correct meter at the expense of the company. Otherwise, the expense of testing shall be borne by the consumer. A uniform reasonable charge shall be fixed by the commission for this service.

46. (Municipalities.)

No municipality except the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore shall build, maintain or operate for other than municipal purposes any plant for supplying any gas or electricity, without a certificate of authority from the commission. Upon refusal of such certificate, no application therefor shall again be made until after six months have elapsed from the date when it was last refused by the commission.