

2. the Commission approves the acquisition.

(ii) The Commission may authorize a public service company of the same class to take, hold, or acquire more than 10% of the total capital stock of a public service company or of a subsidiary or affiliate, as defined in § 7-501 of this Article, of a public service company that operates in Maryland.

(III) THIS PARAGRAPH DOES NOT PROHIBIT A PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY FROM CONTINUING TO HOLD THE CAPITAL STOCK OF ANY PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY THAT IT HELD ON MARCH 29, 2006.

(5) A public service company may not be a party to a violation of this subsection.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect from the date it is enacted, contingent on the taking effect of Chapter \_\_\_\_ (H.B. 1713) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2006, and if Chapter \_\_\_\_ does not become effective, this Act shall be null and void without the necessity of further action by the General Assembly.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted.

Approved April 6, 2006.

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**CHAPTER 34**  
**(Senate Bill 48)**

AN ACT concerning

**State Lottery - Prize Winners - Voluntary Assignments**

FOR the purpose of enabling certain prize winners of the State lottery to voluntarily assign prizes that are paid in installments under certain circumstances; authorizing a certain court to hear petitions for approval of voluntary assignments; requiring a certain court to issue an order that approves a voluntary assignment and directs the State Lottery Agency to make certain payments to the assignee if the court makes certain findings; requiring that a certain notice be given to the State Lottery Agency at a certain time; requiring the State Lottery Agency under certain circumstances to send the assignor and the assignee written confirmation of an assignment and the State Lottery Agency's intent to rely on it in making payments to the assignee; prohibiting assignments from including certain payments; discharging the State Lottery Agency, the State Lottery Commission, and officials and employees of the State Lottery Agency from liability under certain circumstances; providing that certain persons be held harmless and be indemnified from certain proceedings