tenants are low—and moderate income individuals; requiring the rate mitigation plan or rate stabilization plan to apply to increases in electricity rates that will take effect on or after a certain date; making this Act an emergency—measure; defining a certain term, the Office of Home Energy Programs in the Department of Human Resources, and the Office of People's Counsel to meet to discuss certain options for expanding the electric universal service program to include assistance to certain low—income residential tenants of apartments and low—income residential condominium owners who are not actual customers of an electric company; specifying items that the agencies shall consider in discussing certain options; requiring the Commission to report to certain committees by a certain date; and generally relating to electricity-rates a study of expanding the electric universal service program for residential tenants and condominium owners of nonresidential customers.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article—Public Utility Companies
Section 7–501(n) through (q)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1998 Volume and 2006 Supplement)

## BY adding to

Article—Public Utility-Companies
Section 7-501(n)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1998 Volume and 2006 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

## **Article Public Utility Companies**

7 501

- (N) "RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER" INCLUDES A RESIDENTIAL TENANT OF A
  NONRESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER.
- [(n)] (0) "Standard offer service" means electric service that an electric company must offer to its oustomers under § 7–510(c) of this subtitle.
- [(e)] (P) "Transition-bond" means a bond, debenture, note, certificate of participation or beneficial interest, or other evidence of indebtedness or ownership, approved in a qualified rate order and issued under an executed trust indenture or other agreement of an electric company or assignee, and which is secured by, evidences ownership interest in, or is payable from intangible transition property.