## CHAPTER 8

(Senate Bill 1)

AN ACT concerning

## **Public Utility Companies**

FOR the purpose of adding a new article to the Annotated Code of Maryland, to be designated and known as the "Public Utility Companies Article", to revise. restate, and recodify the laws of the State relating and pertaining to: the Public Service Commission, the Office of People's Counsel, administrative and judicial proceedings before and concerning the Commission, rate regulation of public service companies and certain other entities, powers, duties, and prohibitions of and relating to public service companies and their agents and employees, franchises of and condemnation by public service companies, business structure, financing, and reporting requirements, powers and duties of gas and electric companies, electric generation facility planning, gas master meter operation, energy conservation building standards, powers and duties of telephone and telegraph companies including easement acquisition, telephone and telegraph service requirements, common carriers, motor carrier companies, railroads, for-hire driving services and taxicabs, liquefied gas facilities, underground facilities, conversion of overhead utilities, and criminal and civil liability for violations of certain provisions relating to public utility laws; defining certain terms; revising, restating, and recodifying certain provisions relating to: crimes and prohibited acts involving the personnel of or the property or equipment owned or used by certain public utility companies, the handling and disposition of certain baggage and property transported by certain entities, certain requirements concerning telephone equipment, railroad safety and health, and the Commissioner of Labor and Industry; transferring certain provisions to the Session Laws; providing for the construction and application of this Act; providing for the continuity of the terms of certain officials, the status of certain transactions and employees, rights, titles, and interests, licenses, registrations, certifications, and permits; and generally relating to public utility company laws of the State.

## BY repealing

Article 23 - Miscellaneous Companies

Section 139 and the subheading "Payment of Wages"; 166, 167, 193, 195 through 200, 202, 203, 205, 206, 212 through 217, 226, 227 through 229, 229A, 230, 231, 232, 234, 236, 237, 249 through 255; 317 through 320, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 326A, 326B, and 327 and the subheading "Telegraph and Telephone Companies"; 328 through 330 and the subheading "Turnpike, Plank Road and Passenger Railway Companies"; 333, 339, 340, 341, and 341A

Annotated Code of Maryland (1996 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)