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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

October 7, 2015

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY: REVISED CONSUMER MEDICAL CERTIFICATION FORM

The revised consumer <u>medical certification form</u> for serious illness and life support is available on the Maryland Public Service Commission website (<u>www.psc.state.md.us</u>). The form allows certain medical professionals to certify that a consumer has a serious medical condition or uses life support equipment making them temporarily exempt from termination of utility service, under certain circumstances. The form was recently modified to allow the certification by <u>either</u> a licensed physician <u>or</u> a certified nurse practitioner. Previously, only a licensed physician could provide the certification.

In addition, a consumer can use the form to permit the consumer's utility company to release contact information concerning the consumer to emergency responders in the event of a weather-related emergency. The intent is to allow emergency responders to verify the consumer's well-being and provide assistance, as available.

The form was revised as a result of regulations recently promulgated by the Commission (in Rule Making 52). It can be found in the 'Consumer' section of the PSC website, by clicking 'Printable Forms' and 'Physician's Certification of Serious Illness or Life Support Form And/Or Permission for Utility to Release Contact Information in Weather-Related Emergency.'

About the Public Service Commission:

The Maryland Public Service Commission regulates electric and gas utilities, telephone companies (land lines), certain water and sewer companies, passenger motor vehicle carriers for hire (sedans, limousines and buses), taxicab companies (in Baltimore City and County, Cumberland and Hagerstown) and bay pilot rates.

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