

## **HOUSE BILL 130: Preserving Choices for Consumers.**

## 2023-2024 General Assembly

Committee: House Energy and Public Utilities. If Date:

March 14, 2023

favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and

Operations of the House

Reps. Arp, Saine, Wray, Miller **Introduced by:** First Edition

**Prepared by:** Chris Saunders

Committee Counsel

OVERVIEW: House Bill 130 would prohibit local governments from adopting any ordinance that prohibits connection, reconnection, modification, or expansion of an energy service based on the type or source of energy to be delivered to the end-user of the energy service.

## **BILL ANALYSIS:**

**Analysis of:** 

Section 1.(a) of the bill would prohibit a city from adopting an ordinance that prohibits connection, reconnection, modification, or expansion of an energy service based on the type or source of energy to be delivered to the end-user of the energy service. Section 1.(b) would apply the same prohibitions to counties.

Sections 1.(a) and 1.(b) of the bill would not be construed to:

- Limit the ability of a local government to choose the energy service for property owned by the local government.
- Prohibit a local government from recovering reasonable costs associated with reviewing and issuing a permit.
- Affect the authority of a local government to manage or operate a utility owned by the local government, including the local government's authority to require persons residing within their jurisdictions to obtain energy service from a utility owned by local government or a joint municipal power agency of which a city is a member.
- Impair any contract executed by a city prior to the effective date of this act for the supply of electric service.

For purposes of this bill, the term "energy service" would mean the energy source that a consumer may choose to use to illuminate, heat, or cool buildings; produce hot water; operate equipment; operate appliances; or any other similar activities, where the energy source is derived from one or more of a variety of sources such as natural gas, renewable gas, hydrogen, liquefied petroleum gas, renewable liquefied petroleum gas, or other liquid petroleum products, or electricity. The terms "renewable gas" and "renewable liquified petroleum gas" would mean gas derived from a renewable energy resource.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act would be effective when it becomes law.

Jeffrey Hudson Director



Legislative Analysis Division 919-733-2578