As Reported by the Senate Public Utilities Committee

136th General Assembly

Regular Session 2025-2026

Am. S. B. No. 151

Senator Wilkin

То	amend section 4929.02 and to enact sections	1
	4929.51, 4929.52, 4929.53, 4929.55, 4929.57, and	2
	4929.59 of the Revised Code to allow for	3
	competitive retail natural gas service suppliers	4
	to offer carbon offsets to customers.	

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 4929.02 be amended and sections	6
4929.51, 4929.52, 4929.53, 4929.55, 4929.57, and 4929.59 of the	7
Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:	8
Sec. 4929.02. (A) It is the policy of this state to,	9
throughout this state:	10
(1) Promote the availability to consumers of adequate,	11
reliable, and reasonably priced natural gas services and goods;	12
(2) Promote the availability of unbundled and comparable	13
natural gas services and goods that provide wholesale and retail	14
consumers with the supplier, price, terms, conditions, and	15
quality options they elect to meet their respective needs;	16
(3) Promote diversity of natural gas supplies and	17
suppliers, by giving consumers effective choices over the	18
selection of those supplies and suppliers;	19

goods do not affect the rates, prices, terms, or conditions of

and do not affect the financial capability of a natural gas

this section;

economy;

company to comply with the policy of this state specified in

nonexempt, regulated services and goods of a natural gas company

(10) Facilitate the state's competitiveness in the global

(11) Facilitate additional choices for the supply of

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dioxide emissions.	78
(B) "Carbon offset registry" means a nationally recognized	79
entity that engages primarily in the development of carbon	80
offset standards, methodologies, program registration,	
verification oversight, and issuance of carbon offsets, whether	
for profit or not.	83
(C) "Double counting" means a retail natural gas supplier	84
that does either of the following:	85
(1) Sells the same carbon offset to two or more customers;	86
(2) Attributes the carbon offset produced from a single	87
method of mitigation to two or more methods of mitigation.	88
Sec. 4929.52. A retail natural gas supplier that intends	89
to establish a voluntary carbon offset program shall do the	90
<pre>following:</pre>	91
(A) Enter into an agreement with one or more carbon offset	92
registries that can provide the following:	93
(1) Information to identify carbon offset projects;	94
(2) Serial numbers for each carbon offset credit generated	95
<pre>by each project;</pre>	96
(3) A system to identify the original owner that generated	97
the carbon offset credit;	98
(4) A system to check the status of a carbon offset	99
<pre>credit.</pre>	100
(B) Submit a notice to the public utilities commission	101
stating its intention to begin a voluntary carbon offset program	102
that allows all customer classes to enroll and purchase carbon	103
offsets to offset any emissions that are the result of the	

customer's consumption and use of natural gas services.	105
Sec. 4929.53. (A) A notice to begin a voluntary carbon	106
offset program that a retail natural gas supplier submits to the	107
public utilities commission pursuant to section 4929.52 of the	108
Revised Code shall include the following:	109
(1) A copy of an agreement between the retail natural gas	110
supplier and one or more carbon offset registries that at a	111
minimum states that the carbon offsets being sold meet the	112
necessary criteria to be considered a carbon offset and that the	113
registry or registries will conduct regular verification to	114
assure that the offsets are being applied correctly by the	115
<pre>supplier;</pre>	116
(2) A description of the types of carbon offsets the	117
supplier will offer to customers and a description of how the	118
supplier will prevent double counting.	119
(B) The public utilities commission shall maintain a	120
publicly available record of each notice described in division	121
(A) of this section once the commission has verified that the	122
supplier is working with the carbon offset registry or	123
registries it lists in the notice.	124
Sec. 4929.55. No voluntary carbon offset program offered	125
by a retail natural gas supplier under sections 4929.52 to	126
4929.59 of the Revised Code shall require a natural gas company	127
to incur costs related to the program. No such carbon offset	128
program shall require customers who do not participate in the	129
program to incur any costs related to the program.	130
Sec. 4929.57. A retail natural gas supplier's voluntary	131
carbon offset program under sections 4929.52 to 4929.59 of the	132
Revised Code shall include procedures to allow for customers to	133

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opt in and out of the program.	134
Sec. 4929.59. (A) The public utilities commission, at its	135
discretion, may conduct an audit of a retail natural gas	136
supplier's voluntary carbon offset program under sections	137
4929.52 to 4929.59 of the Revised Code to ensure the carbon	138
offsets are being applied correctly to a customer's account and	139
to ensure that no costs incurred under the program are charged	140
to, or collected from, the natural gas company or customers who	141
do not participate in the program.	142
(B) A retail natural gas supplier that is subject to an	143
audit as described in division (A) of this section shall provide	144
the commission any information it determines is necessary to	145
<pre>complete the audit.</pre>	146
Section 2. That existing section 4929.02 of the Revised	147
Code is hereby repealed.	148

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