

As Introduced

134th General Assembly

Regular Session

2021-2022

H. B. No. 201

Representative Stephens

Cosponsors: Representatives Abrams, Baldrige, Carruthers, Cross, Cutrona, Edwards, Ginter, Gross, Fraizer, Johnson, Patton, Riedel, Schmidt, Seitz, Stewart, Swearingen, Wiggam, Wilkin

A BILL

To enact sections 4933.40, 4933.41, and 4933.42 of 1
the Revised Code to prevent local governments 2
from limiting use of natural gas. 3

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

Section 1. That sections 4933.40, 4933.41, and 4933.42 of 4
the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 5

Sec. 4933.40. As used in sections 4933.41 to 4933.42 of 6
the Revised Code: 7

(A) "Political subdivision" means a township, county, or 8
municipal corporation. 9

(B) "Competitive retail natural gas service," "natural gas 10
company," "distribution service," and "retail natural gas 11
service" have the same meanings as in section 4929.01 of the 12
Revised Code. 13

Sec. 4933.41. (A) Every person seeking to obtain 14
distribution service or retail natural gas service has the right 15
to obtain any available distribution service or retail natural 16

gas service from a natural gas company capable of providing 17
service to the person or any available competitive retail 18
natural gas service from any competitive retail natural gas 19
service supplier certified to provide that service to that 20
person in that location. 21

(B) Division (A) of this section is limited by Chapters 22
4929. and 4933. of the Revised Code, any regulations enacted by 23
the public utilities commission thereunder, and any tariffs 24
approved by the public utilities commission, and subject to 25
Sections 4 and 6 of Article XVIII, Ohio Constitution. 26

(C) No legislative or executive authority of any political 27
subdivision shall enact any ordinance or resolution or 28
promulgate any building code or similar requirement that limits 29
the use of, prohibits, or prevents residential, commercial, or 30
industrial consumers within their boundaries from obtaining 31
distribution service or retail natural gas service that would 32
otherwise be available to those consumers under Title 49 and 33
regulations promulgated thereunder. 34

Sec. 4933.42. Section 4933.41 of the Revised Code promotes 35
the public policy of the state to do the following: 36

(A) Increase utilization of the state's indigenous energy 37
resources as provided in section 1551.18 of the Revised Code. 38

(B) Promote the availability of natural gas services and 39
goods as provided in section 4929.02 of the Revised Code. 40