
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 316 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY SCHREIBER, V. BROWN, McNEILL, D. COSTA, THOMAS,
SCHLOSSBERG, BARRAR, READSHAW, COHEN, GIBBONS, ROZZI, MURT,
IRVIN AND DAVIS, MAY 5, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,
MAY 5, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to
2 conduct a study on the issue of expanding the availability of
3 natural gas to Pennsylvania homes, businesses, nonprofit
4 organizations and units of government in the most cost-
5 effective manner.

6 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth dramatically increased its natural
7 gas production in recent years; and

8 WHEREAS, In 2013, this Commonwealth was the second largest
9 producer of natural gas in the United States and one of the
10 largest natural gas producers in the world; and

11 WHEREAS, The exploration, production, distribution and use of
12 natural gas in this Commonwealth has stimulated economic
13 development, produced environmental benefits and has both
14 preserved and created employment in this Commonwealth; and

15 WHEREAS, Notwithstanding the substantial positive economic
16 impact to this Commonwealth, there are geographic limitations on
17 the availability of natural gas in this Commonwealth for use by
18 homes, businesses, nonprofit organizations and units of

1 government; and

2 WHEREAS, Current constraints on availability of natural gas
3 service in some areas of this Commonwealth limit opportunities
4 for economic development, job creation, environmental
5 improvement and prosperity in those areas and thereby preclude
6 all residents of this Commonwealth from sharing in the benefits
7 created by the exploration, production, distribution and use of
8 Pennsylvania natural gas; and

9 WHEREAS, In order to fully capture the benefits of the
10 exploration, production, distribution and use of natural gas
11 across this Commonwealth, it is necessary to identify
12 infrastructure needs with respect to distribution to homes,
13 businesses, nonprofit organizations and units of government that
14 do not currently have convenient access to adequate natural gas
15 service; and

16 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth can best facilitate the expansion
17 of natural gas service to homes, businesses, nonprofit
18 organizations and units of government by using its limited
19 resources to support natural gas capacity installation,
20 enhancement and conversion projects which offer the most
21 benefits to this Commonwealth; therefore be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the
23 Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a study on
24 the issue of expanding the availability of natural gas to
25 Pennsylvania homes, businesses, nonprofit organizations and
26 units of government in the most cost-effective manner; and be it
27 further

28 RESOLVED, That the study by the Legislative Budget and
29 Finance Committee regarding service availability in this
30 Commonwealth include the following:

1 (1) current and anticipated natural gas production in
2 this Commonwealth through the year 2030;

3 (2) current and anticipated demand for natural gas in
4 this Commonwealth through the year 2030 among users who
5 presently have access to natural gas or who have identified
6 projects which will result in increased demand during such
7 time period;

8 (3) current and anticipated demand for Pennsylvania-
9 produced natural gas by current and prospective users outside
10 of this Commonwealth through the year 2030;

11 (4) opportunities for new or increased use of natural
12 gas by homes, businesses, nonprofit organizations and units
13 of government through the year 2030 if new natural gas
14 service or increased supply are made available;

15 (5) identification of gaps in the availability of
16 adequate natural gas service and supply for such current and
17 anticipated users, irrespective of whether the gaps are the
18 result of the absence of any natural gas service, the
19 insufficiency of service capacity for the users or other
20 barriers, inclusive of the identification of the need for
21 particular types of infrastructure;

22 (6) review of programs in other states which facilitate
23 or financially support the development of new or expanded
24 natural gas use or capacity to assess their possible
25 applicability in this Commonwealth;

26 (7) identification, analysis and recommendation of
27 policy options with respect to allocation of Commonwealth
28 support for new or expanded natural gas use or capacity;

29 (8) recommendation of standards to identify
30 opportunities for the introduction or expansion of natural

1 gas service or supply to Pennsylvania homes, businesses,
2 nonprofit organizations and units of government which offer
3 the most favorable cost-benefit ratios and which ratios could
4 therefore be one of the bases used for determination of how
5 to allocate limited economic development resources;

6 and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the committee report its findings and
8 recommendations to the House of Representatives no later than
9 December 31, 2015.