



TO: The Honorable Members of the Senate Local Government Committee

FROM: Kevin Sunday, Director, Government Affairs

DATE: March 6, 2023

RE: SB 143 – Prohibiting Municipal Governments from Impeding Energy Choice

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry, the largest, broad-based business advocacy organization in the Commonwealth, representing nearly 10,000 member companies of all sizes from across all commercial and industrial sectors, I write to encourage you to **vote yes on SB 143**, which is scheduled for consideration by the committee today.

SB 143, similar to legislation which passed the Senate last session with a strong bipartisan vote of 35-15, preserves the right of an individual or business to be served by the utility and energy source of their choosing. This is a continuation and extension of long-standing public policy in this state that energy policy is the prerogative of state government.

As more businesses execute sustainability strategies, it is imperative that state policy afford them the continue assurance that municipal government will not unduly interfere with their ability to make use of the energy choice that best serves those businesses' needs. Access to gas service is also vital to local economic development efforts and residential customers should be afforded access to it as well, as infrastructure build-out continues in the state. The PA Chamber last session provided additional perspective regarding this legislation in written comments for a joint hearing held by the Senate Local Government and Energy and Environmental Committees, which is available [here](#).

Consumer choice with respect to energy policy has yielded substantial economic and environmental benefits to the state, and we support SB 143 as a continuation of that successful public policy. **We urge a yes vote.**

For any questions, please contact Kevin Sunday, Director of Government Affairs, at ksunday@pachamber.org or 717 645-2071.