



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 225**

*January Session, 2005*

Substitute House Bill No. 6779

*House of Representatives, April 7, 2005*

The Committee on Energy and Technology reported through REP. FONTANA of the 87th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING ASSESSMENT OF THE STATUS OF NATURAL GAS COMPETITION IN THE STATE.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) On or before July 1, 2005,  
2 the Department of Public Utility Control, in consultation with the  
3 Office of Consumer Counsel, shall study the status of natural gas  
4 competition in the state. Such report shall examine and analyze factors  
5 associated with the competitive gas market place, including, but not  
6 limited to, (1) the number of gas suppliers providing gas service to  
7 customers in the state; (2) the number of gas suppliers actively  
8 marketing to new customers in the state; (3) the number of customers  
9 receiving gas service from competitive gas suppliers; (4) the existence  
10 of certain barriers to market entry and expansion by the state's gas  
11 suppliers; (5) the status of gas competition in other jurisdictions; (6)  
12 any information that may serve to assess the success of the state's  
13 current competitive gas marketplace; and (7) any other factors the

14 department may consider relevant. Such report shall also include  
 15 recommendations on what, if any, policy changes may need to be  
 16 instituted to enhance development of the state's competitive gas  
 17 market. In conducting said proceeding, the department shall solicit the  
 18 participation and input of a broad array of industry participants and  
 19 other stakeholders. Not later than January 1, 2006, the department  
 20 shall submit a copy of its report, in accordance with the provisions of  
 21 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of  
 22 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy  
 23 and public utilities.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In the first sentence, "initiate an uncontested proceeding to develop a report assessing" was changed to "study" for clarity.

**ET**            *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 06 \$	FY 07 \$
Consumer Counsel; Public Utility Control, Dept.	CC&PUCF - None	None	None

Note: CC&PUCF=Consumer Counsel and Public Utility Control Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill requires the Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC) in consultation with the Office of Consumer Counsel (OCC) , to develop a report on the status of natural gas competition in the state. Both DPUC and OCC would be able to implement the provisions of the bill within available budgetary resources.

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**OLR Bill Analysis**

sHB 6779

***AN ACT CONCERNING ASSESSMENT OF THE STATUS OF  
NATURAL GAS COMPETITION IN THE STATE***

**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC) in consultation with the Office of Consumer Counsel, to conduct an uncontested proceeding to develop a report on the status of natural gas competition in the state. DPUC must begin the proceeding by July 1, 2005 and must solicit the participation of a wide range of industry participants and other stakeholders. It must submit its report to the Energy and Technology Committee by January 1, 2006.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**COMPETITION REPORT**

The report must examine factors associated with the competitive gas marketplace, including:

1. the number of gas suppliers serving customers in the state and the number of customers by competitive suppliers,
2. the number of suppliers actively marketing to new customers,
3. the existence of certain barriers to market entry and expansion by suppliers,
4. the status of competition in other jurisdictions,
5. information that may help assess the success of the competitive marketplace in the state, and
6. other factors DPUC considers relevant.

The report must make recommendations on what policy changes, if

any, need to be instituted to enhance the development of competition in the state.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Energy and Technology Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 16    Nay 0