

ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Thursday March 15, 2012, Room 1C at 1:00PM

Reference: Raised H.B. No. 5474 AN ACT CONCERNING THE AUTONOMY OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY.

Mike Morrissey is Connecticut State Director to the National Propane Gas Association who represents our local trade association members who provide propane gas service to the State of Connecticut.

We oppose H.B. No. 5474. Our opposition to this bill relates to the following section of the bill:

Sec. 14. (Effective from passage) The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall initiate a docket to review the regulation of the state's propane industry. On or before January 1, 2013, the authority shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, the findings of such docket to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy and technology.

Last year, the Office of Program Review and Investigations completed a report titled PROPANE REGULATIONS IN CONNECTICUT which was a comprehensive top to bottom study of the propane industry. This reported stated in part;

“Therefore, the program review committee finds that the sale and delivery of propane by propane dealers to consumers should not be subject to regulation by DPUC at this time.”

Asking the DPUC to re-study what has already been exhaustively studied less than a year ago will be costly and not a good use of taxpayer dollars. We respectfully ask your committee to remove Sec. 14 in its entirety from this bill. Thank you for your consideration.

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