

Department of Planning and Budget

2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1783

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☒ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☒ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: O'Quinn

3. Committee: Commerce and Labor

4. Title: Natural gas utilities; retail supply choice.

5. Summary: Allows every person who desires (i) individually metered propane service or (ii) non-utility gas service in accordance with § 56-265.4:6 the right to acquire such service in accordance with the provider's terms and conditions of service. access to distribution service or retail natural gas from a natural gas company authorized to provide natural gas service to the area where the service will be received. The bill prohibits a public entity from adopting an ordinance, resolution, or any other requirement that limits or prohibits customers from acquiring natural gas service and supply from both utility and non-utility gas companies. The bill prohibits public entities from denying building permits solely based on a proposed utility provider and directs public entities to ensure that all applicable permits and fees are reasonable, as compared to other utility providers, and do not restrict an applicant's ability to use the services of an authorized utility provider.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

8. Fiscal Implications: It is anticipated that this bill will not result in a state fiscal impact.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Housing and Community Development.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.