

Submitter: Marilyn Costamagna  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Commerce and Consumer Protection  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3179

As a person still dependent on power and gas companies for all electrical and gas needs in the house, I am an advocate for HB 3179, the Fair Energy Act.

Even if the house had solar panels on the roof, yet when an inadequate amount of solar would be stored, then power from a private utility company would again be temporarily needed and usage rates would be applied.

Since gas can only be provided from a gas supplier utility, there is no way to escape those rising fee rates. For whatever reason even with the house's temp only set at 68 for fall and winter and at 82 for summer weather, yet the gas bills here are unreasonable high.

Therefore I am in total support of the long needed regulatory power that could be given to the state to set annual energy utilities' billing rates at the lowest amount possible.

Overall, it seems that provisions included in this bill would help families to better avoid big increases in energy bills. The bill also would seemingly move any increases out of winter, when energy usage is highest. Utilities would also have more flexibility to use low-cost financing for important investments in the energy grid to keep customer impacts low. Additionally, HB 3179 would apparently increase transparency in order that customers would know what they are paying for and what to expect from any changes in energy bills.

Especially now when so many people are being laid off and with more threats materializing to affect everyone's economic well being, any move on the state level to help reduce any citizen's financial energy/power supply cost burden would not only be more than appreciated but also so very timely.