

Senate Bill 496

By: Senators Brass of the 28th, Ginn of the 47th, Harper of the 7th, Mullis of the 53rd and Miller of the 49th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 46 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to public utilities and  
2 public transportation, so as to prohibit governmental entities from adopting any policy that  
3 prohibits the connection or reconnection of any utility service based upon the type or source  
4 of energy or fuel; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal  
5 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Title 46 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to public utilities and public  
9 transportation, is amended by adding a new Code section to read follows:

10 "46-1-6.

11 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

12 (1) 'Governmental entity' means any:

13 (A) Municipality, public corporation, political subdivision, instrumentality, body  
14 politic, authority, district, consolidated government, county, or any board, commission,  
15 agency, department, or board of any such entity;

16 (B) State board, commission, agency, department, or board; or

17 (C) Other form of government.

18 (2) 'Policy' means an ordinance, resolution, regulation, code, or any other requirement  
19 imposed by a governmental entity.

20 (b) No governmental entity of this state shall adopt any policy that prohibits, or has the  
21 effect of prohibiting, the connection or reconnection of any utility service based upon the  
22 type or source of energy or fuel to be delivered to any customer.

23 (c) Nothing in this Code section shall limit the ability of a governmental entity to choose  
24 utility services for properties owned by such governmental entity."

25 **SECTION 2.**

26 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
27 without such approval.

28 **SECTION 3.**

29 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.