

SENATE BILL 283

By Ketron

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 82; Title 7, Chapter 83; Title 65, Chapter 4, Part 1; Title 65, Chapter 25, Part 2 and Title 65, Chapter 26, relative to electric and gas utilities.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 65, Chapter 4, Part 1, is amended by adding a new section thereto, as follows:

65-4-127.

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Electric utility" means any public utility as defined § 65-4-101 which is engaged in the sale or distribution of electricity ultimately sold to the public;

(2) "Natural gas utility" means any public utility as defined in § 65-4-101 which is engaged in the sale or distribution of natural gas ultimately sold to the public; and

(3) "Smart meter gateway device" means any electric or natural gas utility meter, utility meter component, utility meter load control device, or any device ancillary to the utility meter, which is located at an end-user's residence or business and which serves as a communication gateway or portal to electrical or natural gas powered appliances, equipment, or devices within the end-user's residence or business, or which otherwise communicates with, monitors, measures, records, reports, stores, restricts, or regulates such electrical or natural gas powered appliances, equipment, or devices.

(b) No electric or natural gas utility that sells or provides electricity or natural gas in this state shall:

(1) Install a smart meter gateway device on or in a customer's home, business, facility, or structure without the customer's written and signed consent;

(2) Regulate or restrict the amount of electricity or natural gas a customer uses;

(3) Discontinue service to a customer when the customer declines to install or use a smart meter gateway device;

(4) Charge a customer any fees for not installing or using a smart meter gateway device;

(5) Obtain data from a customer's smart meter gateway device more than once per month, unless otherwise requested by the customer; or

(6) Share any data from a customer's smart meter gateway device with any person or entity other than the customer's electric utility or natural gas utility.

(c) When an electric utility or natural gas utility enrolls a homeowner or business owner for service, each utility shall disclose in writing to the owner whether a smart meter gateway device has been previously installed and shall remove each smart meter gateway device upon the owner's written request, free of charge.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

it.