

No. 1984-22

## AN ACT

HB 1241

Amending Title 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for the ownership and maintenance of gas service lines and for gas or electric utility advertising expenses and regulation.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Section 102 of Title 66 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding definitions to read:

§ 102. Definitions.

Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent provisions of this part which are applicable to specific provisions of this part, the following words and phrases when used in this part shall have, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this section:

\* \* \*

*“Customer’s service line.” The pipe and appurtenances owned by the customer extending from the service connection of the gas utility to the inlet of the meter serving the customer.*

\* \* \*

*“Service line.” The pipe and appurtenances of the gas utility which connect any main with either the point of connection of a customer’s service line or the meter of the public utility if the utility owns all the pipe and appurtenances between its main and meter.*

\* \* \*

Section 2. Title 66 is amended by adding sections to read:

§ 1316. *Recovery of advertising expenses.*

*(a) General rule.—For purposes of rate determinations, no gas or electric public utility may charge to its consumers as a permissible operating expense for ratemaking purposes any direct or indirect expenditure by the utility for political advertising.*

*(b) Charging expenses to stockholders.—Any direct or indirect expenditure by a gas or electric utility for political advertising shall be charged to its stockholders and shall not be included as an operating expense for ratemaking purposes.*

*(c) Definition.—As used in this section the term “political advertising” means any advertising for the purpose of influencing public opinion with respect to any legislative, administrative action or candidate election or with respect to any controversial issue to be decided by public voting. The term includes money spent for lobbying but not money spent for appearances before regulatory or other governmental bodies in connection with a gas or electric public utility’s existing or proposed operations.*

**§ 1510. *Ownership and maintenance of natural and artificial gas service lines.***

*When connecting the premises of the customer with the gas utility distribution mains, the public utility shall furnish, install and maintain the service line or connection according to the rules and regulations of the filed tariff. A public utility shall not be authorized or required to acquire or assume ownership of any customer's service line. A public utility shall not be authorized or required to acquire or assume ownership of any pipe or appurtenances installed after the effective date of this section between its main and the meter unless the utility would have been authorized or required to do so according to the rules and regulations of its filed tariff if the pipe or appurtenances had been installed on or before the effective date of this section. Maintenance of service lines shall be the responsibility of the owner of the service line.*

Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.

APPROVED—The 7th day of March, A. D. 1984.

DICK THORNBURGH