

January 19, 2023

Testimony to: Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Position: In Favor

Bill: HB 1124

Chairman Porter and members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I am Representative Matt Heilman bringing forward HB 1124.

Natural gas is vital to our state and important for our day to day operations. HB 1124 protects the choice of the consumer and protects a reliable fuel source. I don't need to stress about how important natural gas is in our state so I will be straight to the point.

I'm sure a lot of you have heard in the news about the debate of gas stoves. This issue really started in 2019 when Berkeley, California's city council banned natural gas in new construction. Many places followed taking similar action such as San Francisco, Los Angeles, and 50 municipalities in California. New York City has also passed a similar ordinance.

It is important these harmful policies never enter our state. 20 other state's have taken action as well preventing cities and municipalities from banning natural gas.

We gain nothing from playing reactionary letting this become a problem and attending to it later on rather than preventing it all together. I kindly ask for a do pass recommendation from the committee and I will stand for any questions.