

Senate Finance Committee  
03/16/2020

**House Bill 408 – Public Utilities – Gas Service Regulator Safety**  
**POSITION: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENT**

Safety—for customers, employees, contractors and the public—is Washington Gas’ number one priority, and we are committed to delivering natural gas safely and reliably each and every day.

We appreciate that Delegate Charkoudian contacted us prior to session with a draft of this bill and we have been in regular contact as HB408 has been amended.

The bill in front of you today has several amendments we have reviewed and are comfortable with. There is one final amendment we requested from the Sponsor but it was not included.

On page 3, we propose to strike, in their entirety, lines 9 through 13:

9                   (2) ~~(i)~~ ~~SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, ANY~~  
10 ANY EXISTING GAS SERVICE REGULATOR THAT IS INSTALLED IN THE INTERIOR OF  
11 AN OCCUPIED STRUCTURE A MULTIFAMILY RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURE SHALL BE  
12 RELOCATED TO THE OUTSIDE OF THE STRUCTURE WHENEVER THE GAS SERVICE  
13 LINE, METER, OR REGULATOR IS REPLACED.

We have shared this proposed amendment with the PSC and they have no objections to it. The PSC also took no position on the bill.

Very briefly, the bill would allow utilities to submit a plan to the PSC on how they will relocate interior service regulators to the outside of multifamily residential structures. The plan allows for prudent spending, permitting, personnel coordination and other efficiencies. The above section would run counter to this plan. What could be a quick maintenance fix would now be a large and costly relocation job.

Thank you for your consideration and please don’t hesitate to contact me with any questions.

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Brian Smith, State Government Relations and Public Policy Manager  
M 202.945.7140 | [bsmith@washgas.com](mailto:bsmith@washgas.com)

