



Northeast Hearth, Patio, and Barbecue Association

PO Box 28, Sudbury, MA 01776 . 978-440-0344 . nehpba.org

July 10, 2025

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
New York State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

RE: S.8417 (Krueger) / A.8888 (Simon) 100-Ft Rule Elimination for Gas Service

Dear Governor Hochul:

On behalf of the Northeast Hearth, Patio, and Barbecue Association (NEHPBA), we write to respectfully urge you to veto S8147 Kruger / A888 Simon. This legislation eliminates New York's "100-foot rule" for natural gas service line extensions.

The Northeast Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association (NEHPBA) is a trade association representing approximately 300 individual member fireplace and grill retail and related companies throughout the Northeast. Specifically, in the State of New York, we have over 90 member companies supporting over 400 families. The vast majority of our members are independent "mom and pop" small businesses that play a large role in the communities and markets they serve across the State.

For decades, the 100-foot rule has helped ensure equitable access to natural gas by requiring utilities to cover the cost of extending service to customers within 100 feet of an existing gas main. Repealing this provision would shift significant infrastructure costs, often exceeding thousands of dollars, onto homeowners and small businesses. This makes energy access, choice, and affordability out of reach for everyday New Yorkers.

NEHPBA supports a diverse and balanced strategy that includes natural gas, propane, electricity, and renewable fuels. Consumers should not be forced into energy decisions based solely on cost burdens imposed by policy changes.



Hearth, Patio & Barbeque Association Affiliate
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While we respect the state's efforts to reduce emissions, this legislation overlooks the practical reality that many residents rely on clean and efficient gas appliances. This is especially true for those living in rural and cold-climate areas. Prematurely narrowing energy options prior to having a secure electric grid risks compromising reliability.

At a time when affordability and electric grid reliability is already stretched too thin, adding new financial burdens on households and limiting energy options would only deepen the strain on communities.

We urge you to consider the long-term consequences of this bill. A veto would allow for a more balanced approach that protects consumer choice, maintains affordability, and supports the state's energy transition without penalizing everyday New Yorkers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Karen Arpino
Executive Director
Northeast HPBA



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