



RETAIL INDUSTRY
LEADERS ASSOCIATION

STATE ENERGY EFFICIENCY LAWS & CODES AND BUILDING NATURAL GAS LAWS: AN INTRODUCTION FOR RETAIL

This summary on State Level Efficiency factsheet is a part of a series on Energy Efficiency in Buildings - Standards and Codes for Retail



SUMMARY OF NATURAL GAS LAWS

LEGISLATION PREVENTING GAS ACCESS OR REQUIRING ELECTRIFICATION

To date, all legislation altering access to natural gas are on the municipal level and applied to new construction only.

The California Energy Commission passed an ordinance in December 2019 making California the first state to allow local governments to implement energy policies restricting natural gas or requiring electrification in buildings. The specifics of each municipality differ, consisting of variations for building type, timeline, and technology requirements.

Most policies require complete electrification in all new residential and commercial buildings built after January 2020 with minimal exemptions. A complete list of existing California city/municipal policies can be found [here](#).

Similar policies are proposed on the municipal level in Massachusetts but await approval from the Massachusetts Energy Commission before implementation.

ANTI-GAS BAN LEGISLATION:

Conversely, four states have passed policy to prevent municipalities from implementing gas bans. This legislation safeguards natural gas access in these states.

| STATE | POLICY | DATE ENACTED |
|--|--|--------------|
| Oklahoma HB 3619 | Prohibits 'certain codes and ordinances' in cities and towns including any utility connection restrictions | 3/26/2020 |
| Tennessee SB 1935/HB 1838 | "As enacted, prohibits political subdivisions from prohibiting by ordinance, resolution, regulation, code, or any other requirement, the connection or reconnection of a utility service based on the type or source of energy to be delivered to an individual customer" | 5/22/2020 |
| Arizona HB 2686 | Municipality cannot prohibit or restrict through fine or permit denial a builder or customer's access to any utility type or provider that is capable and authorized to provide utility service | 2/21/2020 |
| Louisiana Statue 40 revision 1730.21.1 | "No code, ordinance, land use restriction or general or specific plan provision or part of a code, ordinance, land use regulation or general or specific plan provision adopted by a parish or municipality may prohibit or have the effect of restricting a person's or entity's ability to use the services of a utility provider that is capable and authorized to provide the utility service at a person's or entity's property." "For the purposes of this Section, 'utility service' means natural gas provided to an end user." | 8/1/2020 |

