

# Our Homes, Our Health Our Choice Oppose SB 230, SB 141 & HB 488



Senate Bill 230, House Bill 488 and SA 3 to SB 141 take away the ability of local governments to make decisions about what kind of energy sources best serve their communities. This one size fits all approach fails to allow our local governments the ability to pursue policies that protect our health and put financial resources back in the hands of our local families and businesses. This is wrong. We need strong local democracy that is responsive to protecting citizens.

## Our Homes

The Rocky Mountain Institute found that the upfront costs for new fully electric buildings are as much as 30% cheaper than a combination of electricity and natural gas, even in cold climates. In addition, advanced electric appliances like heat pumps are three to five times more energy-efficient than gas and electric resistance appliances, reducing overall household energy demand while improving comfort.



## Our Health

Air pollution hurts everyone, with people of color and low-income families suffering disproportionately from fossil fuel pollution. Gas appliances in residential and commercial buildings produce nearly seven times more nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions than gas power plants do. Nitrogen oxide leads to ozone, commonly called “smog,” which can cause asthma and respiratory diseases. Recent research found that air pollution levels in 60% of homes with gas stoves exceeded the US EPA’s definition of clean air, meaning that the air pollution levels in these homes would be illegal if found outdoors.

## Our Choice

Local governments are increasingly on the frontlines of addressing the health and safety of their communities and the impacts of climate change. The impacts range from wildfire threats, destruction, and or failure of infrastructure and in providing services to citizens before and after extreme weather events. Our cities and towns need to have a range of tools to address the problems facing their communities so they can protect their citizens.

**SB 230 is sponsored by Senator Burlison and passed out of the Senate Commerce, Consumer Protection, Energy and the Environment Committee. HB 488 is sponsored by Representative Ron Hicks and it passed the House. SB 141 is sponsored by Senator Bean and SA 3 to SB 141 is sponsored by Senator Burlison and it passed the Senate and was assigned to the House Judiciary Committee..**