

By: Representative Cummings

To: Local and Private
Legislation

HOUSE BILL NO. 1689
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF IUKA, MISSISSIPPI, TO OPERATE
2 ITS NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM WITHIN CERTAIN AREAS OUTSIDE
3 THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF IUKA; AND FOR RELATED
4 PURPOSES. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF
5 MISSISSIPPI:

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7 SECTION 1. (1) Notwithstanding any provisions of Section
8 21-27-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, to the contrary, the governing
9 authorities of the City of Iuka in Tishomingo County, Mississippi,
10 in their discretion, may construct, expand, operate and maintain
11 the natural gas distribution system of the City of Iuka within any
12 area in Tishomingo County, Mississippi, which is not certificated
13 to another natural gas utility for such service, or if
14 certificated, upon obtaining a release from that utility and a
15 Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity from the Public
16 Service Commission. Whenever such natural gas utility service is
17 furnished to any consumer residing outside the corporate limits of
18 the City of Iuka, the consumer may not be charged at a rate
19 greater than twice the rate charged for the same service within
20 the corporate limits of the City of Iuka.

21 (2) The authority conferred by this act shall not be
22 construed as an exemption from the provisions of Section 77-3-1
23 et seq., Mississippi Code of 1972, as to the requirements of
24 obtaining a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, the
25 jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission to regulate rates or
26 any other provision of law.

27 (3) The governing authorities of the City of Iuka shall make
28 a reasonable effort to provide natural gas service to each

29 consumer within the distribution system who requests such service.

30 For the purpose of this subsection, the term "distribution
31 system" means all areas that are being served on the effective
32 date of House Bill No. 1689, 1999 Regular Session.

33 (4) The governing authorities of the City of Iuka shall have
34 a financial report on the natural gas distribution system filed
35 annually with the State Auditor for his review. The audited
36 financial statements shall be maintained in the office of the
37 system for public inspection and shall be made available to the
38 public during normal business hours.

39 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
40 and after its passage.