

By: Representatives Eaton, Rotenberry

To: Local and Private
Legislation

HOUSE BILL NO. 1665

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNING AUTHORITIES OF THE TOWN OF
2 RALEIGH IN SMITH COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, TO EXPAND ITS GAS
3 DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM WITHIN A CERTAIN DISTANCE OUTSIDE THE
4 CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

6 **SECTION 1.** (1) Notwithstanding any provisions of Section
7 21-27-39, Mississippi Code of 1972, to the contrary, the governing
8 authorities of the Town of Raleigh in Smith County, Mississippi,
9 in their discretion, may construct, expand, operate and maintain
10 the gas distribution system of the town for a distance not to
11 exceed six (6) miles from the corporate limits of the town.
12 Whenever such gas utility service is furnished to any consumer
13 residing outside the corporate limits of the town, the consumer
14 may not be charged at a rate greater than twice the rate charged
15 for the same service within the corporate limits of the city.

16 (2) The authority conferred by this act shall not be
17 construed as an exemption from the provisions of Section 77-3-1 et
18 seq., Mississippi Code of 1972, as to the requirements for
19 obtaining a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, the
20 jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission to regulate rates or
21 any other provisions of that law.

22 (3) The governing authorities of the Town of Raleigh shall
23 make a reasonable effort to provide service to everyone within the
24 distribution system who requests service. For the purpose of this
25 subsection, the "system" shall mean all areas which are being
26 served on the effective date of this act.

27 (4) The governing authorities of the Town of Raleigh shall
28 annually have a financial report containing an audit of the

29 natural gas distribution system filed with the State Auditor for
30 his review. The financial statements shall be maintained in the
31 office of the system for public inspection and shall be made
32 available to the public during normal business hours.

33 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
34 and after its passage.