STATE OF NEW YORK

10585

IN ASSEMBLY

March 13, 2026

Introduced by M. of A. SANTABARBARA -- read once and referred to the Committee on Energy

AN ACT to amend the public service law, in relation to establishing a propane consumer pricing advisor and propane advisory board within the New York state department of public service

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The public service law is amended by adding a new section 28 to read as follows:

§ 28. Propane consumer pricing advisor; propane advisory board. 1. There is hereby established within the department the position of propane consumer pricing advisor.

2. (a) There is hereby established within the department a propane advisory board which shall consist of twelve members as follows:

(i) two representatives from consumer advocacy organizations;

(ii) two representatives from the propane industry;

(iii) two representatives from small business stakeholders;

(iv) three representatives from rural communities within New York state; and

(v) three representatives from suburban communities within New York state.

(b) The purpose of such board shall be to advise the propane consumer pricing advisor and the department.

3. The propane consumer pricing advisor, in consultation with the propane advisory board, shall be authorized to:

(a) monitor statewide propane pricing trends and regional disparities;

(b) collect, analyze and publish aggregate market data;

(c) review contract prices and fee structures;

(d) develop best-practice transparency guidelines for propane businesses;

(e) issue annual reports with findings and recommendations to the governor and the legislature;

(f) serve as a resource for consumers navigating propane pricing and service agreements; and

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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(g) coordinate and consult with the office of the New York state attorney general in matters involving consumer complaints, investigations or legal actions concerning propane companies, including cases involving consumers versus propane businesses.

4. Nothing in this section shall authorize the imposition of price controls. The purpose of this section shall be to promote transparency, accountability, informed consumer choice, and interagency cooperation to address unfair or deceptive practices.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.