

Dear Chairman Thompson and members of the Senate Utilities Committee,

My name is Jack Vandeleuv. I'm a resident of Overland Park, Kansas. As a 25-year-old, I'm acutely aware that the battle against climate change will be decided within my lifetime. Keeping global warming below the dangerous threshold of 1.5° Celsius will require that we cut emissions in half by the time I'm 35 years old, and eliminate all emissions by the time I'm 55. For two years now, I've participated in Climate Action KC—the regional initiative by Kansas City municipalities to limit climate change—and it's become very clear we need require more urgent action from our municipalities, not less.

For this reason, I am appalled that the State of Kansas intends to seize the authority to regulate air and climate pollution from local communities. Burning natural gas indoors creates [negative health impacts](#)—particularly in children—which include asthma, learning deficits, and, in some cases, death. Furthermore, 12 percent of our carbon emissions come from fossil fuels burned on-site in our buildings, meaning that electric heat pumps, water heaters, and stoves need to be deployed to all of our buildings as soon as possible. Every natural gas hookup is outdated infrastructure, which only worsens the outlook for Kansas. We should embrace the clean energy future—which we are uniquely poised to benefit from—rather than block local communities from trying to create a safer world for ourselves and our children.

Source: <https://rmi.org/insight/gas-stoves-pollution-health>

Sincerely,
Jack Vandeleuv

12146 Kessler Street
Overland Park, KS 66213
jack.vandeleuv@gmail.com
913-956-8191