

ELECTRIC CHOICE

A compromise was reached at the end of the legislative session to approve bills enacting significant changes to the provision of energy across the state. The revised legislation eliminates the fees and restrictions on alternative energy suppliers and choice customers. The two bills also increase the percentage of energy that utilities must generate from renewable sources from ten to fifteen percent by 2021. A proposed surcharge on those who generate their own power and place their excess generation into the grid was eliminated in the compromise. MANS joined the Michigan Catholic Conference and a large customer coalition advocating for these changes to the original bills. The changes will preserve some level of choice in the electricity market. Senate Bills 437-438, sponsored by Senators John Proos (R-St. Joseph) and Mike Nofs (R-Battle Creek), passed both chambers and continue now to the governor. The governor is expected to sign the legislation.