

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120**

**Final Rulemaking Order to  
Amend the Provisions of 52 Pa.  
Code, Chapter 56**

**Public Meeting – February 28, 2019  
2508421-LAW  
Docket No. L-2015-2508421**

**STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER ANDREW G. PLACE**

Before the Commission today for consideration is a Final Rulemaking to Amend the Provisions of 52 Pa Code, Chapter 56 to Comply with the Amended Provisions of 66 Pa. C.S. Chapter 14. The changes to Chapter 56 encompass certain standards and billing practices to comply with Act 155 of 2014, as well as other changes to update the regulations. Of these changes, I would like to highlight one. In Subchapter C, Credit and Deposit Standards Policy Procedures for Applicants, we are amending the policy statement to further identify protected classes of citizens and customers in Pennsylvania.

In Governor Tom Wolf's 2018 Executive Order establishing the Pennsylvania Commission on LGBTQ Affairs,<sup>1</sup> he acknowledges the "unique, diverse, and valuable contributions to the culture, society and economy of Pennsylvania" from LGBTQ Pennsylvanians. Governor Wolf further indicates that the Commonwealth is committed to providing equality and opportunity for all its citizens. The Commission could not agree more, and as part of today's amendments to Chapter 56, we are expanding the anti-discrimination language of Chapter 56 to now include protections for "color, religious creed, ancestry, union membership, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, AIDS or HIV status or disability."

With these changes we can all ensure that continued and equal access to utility service is preserved for all of Pennsylvania's citizens.

February 28, 2019

**Date**



**Andrew G. Place, Commissioner**

---

<sup>1</sup>Executive Order 2018-06 establishing the Pennsylvania Commission on LGBTQ Affairs. August 6, 2018.  
<https://www.oa.pa.gov/Policies/eo/Documents/2018-06.pdf>