- 1 AN ACT concerning public utilities.
- 2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
- 3 represented in the General Assembly:
- 4 Section 5. The Public Utilities Act is amended by adding
- 5 Sections 8-501.5, 8-505.5, and 9-245 as follows:
- 6 (220 ILCS 5/8-501.5 new)
- 7 <u>Sec. 8-501.5. Employees and independent contractors;</u>
- 8 background checks.
- 9 <u>(a) Before hiring an employee or independent contractor</u>
- 10 to perform work involving facilities used for the
- 11 <u>distribution of natural gas to customers, a public utility</u>
- 12 <u>shall, in accordance with Commission rules, require the</u>
- 13 proposed employee or independent contractor to complete a
- 14 <u>certificate listing the proposed employee's or contractor's</u>
- violations of pertinent safety or environmental laws.
- 16 (b) The Commission shall adopt rules establishing the
- 17 <u>requirements for the certificates referred to in subsection</u>
- 18 <u>(a).</u>
- 19 (220 ILCS 5/8-505.5 new)
- 20 <u>Sec. 8-505.5. Work on natural gas regulator or</u>
- 21 <u>manometer</u>. The Commission shall require, under such rules as
- 22 <u>it may prescribe</u>, a public utility that is performing work on
- 23 <u>a natural gas regulator or manometer containing mercury that</u>
- 24 <u>is used to provide natural gas service to test the immediate</u>
- 25 <u>area around the regulator or manometer for mercury before and</u>
- 26 <u>after work is performed using testing instruments of the type</u>
- 27 <u>approved by the Commission. Copies of the test results, if</u>
- 28 requested, shall be provided to the occupant or owner of the
- 29 <u>property upon which the regulator or manometer is located at</u>
- 30 the time the work is performed. The test results shall be

- 1 <u>available for inspection by the Commission.</u>
- 2 (220 ILCS 5/9-245 new)
- 3 <u>Sec. 9-245. Rates; environmental fines and remediation.</u>
- 4 In determining the rates for a public utility engaged in
- 5 providing natural gas service, the Commission may not include
- 6 any expenditure for fines or remediation and related
- 7 <u>activities incurred as a result of mercury spills associated</u>
- 8 <u>with gas pressure regulators, manometers, or any other</u>
- 9 <u>devices containing mercury in the utility's system.</u> Any
- 10 <u>related insurance or third party recoveries must also be</u>
- 11 <u>excluded for ratemaking purposes.</u>
- 12 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
- 13 becoming law.