

1 **H. B. 2998**

2  
3 (By Delegates Eldridge, R. Phillips, Tomblin, Campbell,  
4 Young, Lynch, Hartman, Reynolds, Longstreth,  
5 Barrett and Barill)  
6

7 [Introduced March 20, 2013; referred to the  
8 Committee on Energy, Industry and Labor, Economic  
9 Development and Small Business then the Judiciary.]

10 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by  
11 adding thereto a new section, designated §36-3-8a, relating to  
12 requiring natural gas lessors to provide surface owners on  
13 whose properties natural gas producing wells are drilled the  
14 ability to purchase gas from those wells.

15 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

16 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended  
17 by adding thereto a new section, designated §36-3-8a, to read as  
18 follows:

19 **ARTICLE 3. FORM AND EFFECT OF DEEDS AND CONTRACTS.**

20 **§36-3-8a. Natural gas leases; surface owner may purchase gas.**

21 A natural gas lessor who drills a natural gas producing well  
22 shall permit the owner of the surface on whose property the well is  
23 drilled to purchase gas from that well. The lessor shall also  
24 provide the surface owner access to the well.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require natural gas lessors to provide surface owners on whose properties gas producing wells are drilled the ability to purchase gas from the wells.

This section is new; therefore, it has been completely underscored.