

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2865**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Stephen L. DiNatale*

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act promoting storm resistant utility infrastructure upgrades.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Dennis A. Rosa</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>
<i>James Arciero</i>	<i>2nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>
<i>John V. Fernandes</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>
<i>Sheila C. Harrington</i>	<i>1st Middlesex</i>
<i>Leonard Mirra</i>	<i>2nd Essex</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jonathan D. Zlotnik</i>	<i>2nd Worcester</i>

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By Mr. DiNatale of Fitchburg, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2865) of Stephen L. DiNatale and others for legislation to promote storm resistant utility infrastructure upgrades. Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2929 OF 2013-2014.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

—————  
**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**  
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An Act promoting storm resistant utility infrastructure upgrades.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           SECTION 1. Section 85B of Chapter 164 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010  
2 Official Addition, is hereby amended by adding, after paragraph (8) in subsection (a), the  
3 following new paragraph:-

4           (9) identification of necessary upgrades to transmission and distribution infrastructure to  
5 ensure reliable service to customers, including, but not limited to, the replacement of damaged  
6 wires, transformers, conduits, or substations with storm-resistant, modernized technologies and  
7 other upgrades to prevent service disruption during emergencies.

8           SECTION 2. Said Section 85B of Chapter 164 of the General Laws is hereby further  
9 amended by adding after subsection (i) the following new subsection:-

10           (j) Each investor-owned electric distribution, transmission or natural gas distribution  
11 company, when implementing an emergency response plan, shall replace damaged or destroyed  
12 distribution or transmission infrastructure with upgraded, storm-resistant or other modernized  
13 infrastructure to prevent future service disruptions, as determined in advance by the department.  
14 The department shall consider and approve of such necessary upgrades annually in each  
15 emergency response plan.