

HOUSE No. 2929

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 passage 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>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>
<i>John V. Fernandes</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>Cory Atkins</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise Andrews</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>

HOUSE No. 2929

By Mr. DiNatale of Fitchburg, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2929) of Stephen L. DiNatale and others for legislation to promote storm resistant utility infrastructure upgrades. Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

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.