

SENATE No. 2135

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Adam Gomez

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 establishing a moratorium on new gas system expansion.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Adam Gomez</i>	<i>Hampden</i>	
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Worcester and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/10/2023</i>
<i>Marc R. Pacheco</i>	<i>Third Bristol and Plymouth</i>	<i>2/24/2023</i>

SENATE No. 2135

By Mr. Gomez, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2135) of Adam Gomez, Mike Connolly, Rebecca L. Rausch, Jack Patrick Lewis and other members of the General Court for legislation to establish a moratorium on new gas system expansion. Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act establishing a moratorium on new gas system expansion.

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 1 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition, is
2 amended by inserting the following definition:-

3 “Combustible fuel facilities”, infrastructure involving the processing, storage,
4 transmission, or distribution of combustible fuel sources, including but not limited to oil, natural
5 gas, renewable natural gas, and hydrogen.

6 SECTION 2. Section 69J of said chapter 164, as so appearing, is hereby further amended
7 by inserting, at the end thereof the following:-

8 No new combustible fuel facility shall be approved, and no expansion of an existing
9 combustible fuel facility shall be approved unless required for the safety of the public, until 2026
10 at the earliest.

11 SECTION 3. Section 69K of said chapter 164, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
12 inserting, at the end thereof the following:-

13 No new combustible fuel facility shall be granted a petition for a certificate, and no
14 expansion of an existing combustible fuel facility shall be granted a petition for a certificate
15 unless required for the safety of the public until 2026 at the earliest.

16 SECTION 4. Section 30 of said chapter 164, as so appearing, is amended by striking out,
17 in line 1 the words “a gas or” and inserting in place thereof the following word:- “an”.

18 SECTION 5. Said chapter 164, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by inserting
19 after section 86 the following section:-

20 Section 86A. A town where no gas company exists in active operation, or where no
21 person owns or operates the manufacture and sale of gas, no gas company, nor any other person,
22 shall dig up and open the streets, lanes, and highways of such town in order to construct a
23 combustible fuel facility.