

HOUSE No. 3104

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Vincent A. Pedone

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 to Establish the Utility Safety Fund .

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Vincent A. Pedone

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

15th Worcester

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE UTILITY SAFETY FUND .

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. There shall be established a Fund, to be paid for by utility companies doing business in the
2 Commonwealth, to provide for the immediate relief of municipalities impacted by utility outages. Said
3 funds shall be utilized by municipalities for emergency response, public works and other municipal
4 services impacted by such outages as well as other functions deemed necessary by said municipality.
5 Said utilities are hereby expressly prohibited from in any way passing along the costs associated with this
6 Act to consumers in the Commonwealth and the Attorney General of the Commonwealth is hereby
7 authorized to investigate and prosecute any violation of this provision.

8 Section 2. Said utilities shall, on an annual basis, each contribute no less than an amount equal to five
9 times the combined total compensation of the five most highly compensated individuals in each of said
10 utilities. Said funds shall be paid annually to a fund to be established and administered for this purpose by
11 the Executive office of Administration and Finance or its designee. The Executive Office of
12 Administration and Finance shall, on or before December 31 of each year, file a detailed report with the
13 Clerk of the House and Senate detailing the funds collected from each utility, the amount available in the
14 Fund, and the funds disbursed hereunder.

15 Section 3. On an annual basis, the five most highly compensated individuals in each utility covered by
16 the Act shall personally certify to the Office of the Attorney General, under the pains and penalties of
17 perjury, that they have complied with the provisions of this Act.

18 Section 4. Failure to comply with the provision of this Act shall result in the suspension of any said
19 utilities right to conduct business in the commonwealth.