

HOUSE No. 3310

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

David M. Nangle

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 further regulating cable television systems.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

David M. Nangle

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

17th Middlesex

HOUSE No. 3310

By Mr. Nangle of Lowell, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3310) of David M. Nangle relative to payments for cable services. Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act further regulating cable television systems.

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 5 of chapter 166A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following 2 paragraphs:-

3 (p) Neither it nor the operator shall require payment in advance from any subscriber but a
4 cable subscriber may voluntarily offer and a licensee or operator may accept advance payments
5 for service.

6 (q) It, and any operator, shall itemize all rates and charges to subscribers. Payment of
7 bills are due no sooner than 15 days from mailing, which shall be a date certain and in no case a
8 statement that the bill is due upon receipt. A subscriber account shall not be considered
9 delinquent unless payment has not been received by the licensee or operator at least 30 days after
10 the bill due date. The licensee or operator shall not impose a late charge on a subscriber unless a
11 subscriber is delinquent, the licensee or operator has given the subscriber a written late charge
12 notice in a clear and conspicuous manner and the subscriber has been given at least 8 business

13 days from the date of delinquency to pay the balance due. No late charge may be assessed on the
14 amount of a bill in dispute. A licensee or operator shall provide subscribers with a written
15 statement of account for each billing period and a final bill at the time of disconnection.