

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2607**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Tackey Chan*

*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 requiring investigation gas leak explosions by the Department of Public Utilities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Tackey Chan</i>	<i>2nd Norfolk</i>	<i>10/1/2012</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2607**

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By Mr. Chan of Quincy, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2607) of Tackey Chan relative to requiring the investigation of gas leak explosions by the Department of Public Utilities. Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
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An Act requiring investigation gas leak explosions by the Department of Public Utilities.

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

1           (10) After it is found that a gas leak caused an explosion by either the gas distribution  
2 company or a local or state public safety official, the Department shall open a full investigation  
3 within 24 hours after the explosion and shall require the distribution gas company to retain and  
4 preserve all materials related to the explosion, including, but not limited to, gas pipes, customer  
5 call recordings and records, inspection reports, maps of the gas line, and leak survey records, and  
6 make said materials for the Department for its investigation. The Department shall convene at  
7 least one public hearing in the community where the explosion occurred. Should it be  
8 determined by the Department that the distribution gas company was responsible for the  
9 explosion; the Department shall direct the distribution gas company to take specific action to  
10 prevent a future explosion and shall issue a civil penalty not to exceed \$250,000. Nothing in this  
11 clause shall prevent a gas distribution company from taking actions necessary to protect the  
12 public from a gas leak or from conducting repairs and replacements of gas lines.