

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2929**

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**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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

**An Act promoting storm resistant utility infrastructure upgrades.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>	<i>1/15/2013</i>
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2013</i>
<i>John V. Fernandes</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>	<i>1/30/2013</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.