

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2962**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Paul McMurtry***

*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 to implement a gas expansion program for Massachusetts.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>	

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2962**

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By Mr. McMurtry of Dedham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2962) of Paul McMurtry for legislation to increase the availability, affordability and feasibility of providing natural gas service. Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**  
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An Act to implement a gas expansion program for Massachusetts.

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

1           Beginning July 1, 2013, the department of public utilities shall permit each natural gas  
2 company in the commonwealth to design and offer programs to consumers which increase the  
3 availability, affordability or feasibility of natural gas service for customers. Subject to the  
4 department’s approval prior to implementation, such programs may include alternative rate  
5 structures to cover program costs including customer conversions costs, main extensions or other  
6 costs for facilities necessary to add new customers through the program, cost-sharing, incentives  
7 or other innovative means to accelerate the creation of jobs within the state and the realization of  
8 benefits of the expansion of and conversion to efficient natural gas usage in the commonwealth.  
9 The department shall review and approve proposed programs for each gas company on a cost-  
10 effectiveness standard and on a schedule that enables timely customer access to available  
11 programs. In the next general distribution rate proceeding, reasonable and prudent customer  
12 costs and associated revenues added since the last general distribution rate proceeding shall be  
13 included in the cost of service and such customers shall thereafter take service at the rate  
14 approved by the Department in the general distribution rate proceeding.