HOUSE . . . . . No. 4177

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 7, 2016.

The committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy to whom were referred the message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to relative to a long-term, sustainable solar industry (House, No. 3724); and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 755) of Frank I. Smizik for legislation to promote efficiency in the use of certain natural resources; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 772) of Chris Walsh, Carmine L. Gentile and Denise Provost for legislation to direct the Department of Public Utilities to promulgate rules and regulations relative to the development of underground utility infrastructure; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2847) of Ruth B. Balser and others relative to community access television; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2848) of Michael D. Brady and Michelle M. DuBois relative to clarifying certain utility assessments; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2852) of Thomas J. Calter and others relative to net metering, community shared solar and energy storage; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2859) of Edward F. Coppinger and others relative to installation of electrical sub-meters; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2860) of Mark J. Cusack for legislation to require that certain funds distributed by the Commonwealth to wind and solar plants be posted on a website maintained by the Mass Clean Energy Center; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2864) of Stephen L. DiNatale and others for legislation to authorize the North Central Chamber of Commerce to establish a pilot program for net metering of electricity for manufacturers; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2865) of Stephen L. DiNatale and others for legislation to promote storm resistant utility infrastructure upgrades; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2866) of Stephen L. DiNatale and others for legislation to regulate the establishment of municipal lighting plants; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2867) of Stephen L. DiNatale, Stephen Kulik and Sheila C. Harrington relative to telephone services in municipalities; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2868) of Stephen L. DiNatale and others relative to utility meters and the

rights of utility ratepayers; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2869) of Paul J. Donato relative to the timing of contractual reimbursements for the federal manufacturer's excise tax on petroleum products; the joint the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2870) of Lori A. Ehrlich, James B. Eldridge and others relative to protecting consumers of gas and electricity from paying for leaked and unaccounted for gas; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2872) of Kimberly N. Ferguson and Stephen L. DiNatale relative to the accountability of public funds used for wind and solar projects contained on the web site maintained by the Mass Clean Energy Center; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2873) of Ann-Margaret Ferrante and Kate Hogan relative to providing closed captioning options for the deaf and narration services for the blind; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2874) of Michael J. Finn for legislation to extend the required gas meter replacement time from every seven years to every fifteen years; the joint the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2875) of Gloria L. Fox and others relative to the definition of "beverage" and the redemption of containers under the bottle law, so-called; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2876) of Paul K. Frost for legislation to authorize cities and towns to borrow from the Commonwealth without interest for green energy programs for such municipalities; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2877) of William C. Galvin for legislation to provide access to fuel for private and emergency vehicles during emergencies; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2879) of Colleen M. Garry relative to net metering; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2880) of Colleen M. Garry and Chris Walsh for legislation to impose a recycling fee on beverages sold in beverage containers in the Commonwealth; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2882) of Jonathan Hecht and others for legislation to establish a double pole advisory council to recommend rules and regulations to reduce the use of double utility poles; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2883) of Paul R. Heroux and others for legislation to establish a framework for consumer electricity rate savings and to make certain other changes in law; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2884) of Bradford R. Hill and others that the the Department of Energy Resources be directed to establish and administer a grant program providing rebates for purchases of qualifying plug-in electric vehicles; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2885) of Kate Hogan and others for legislation to authorize the Department of Telecommunications and Cable and the Department of Public Utilities to regulate the use of double utility poles; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2886) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others for legislation to establish a voluntary accelerated energy efficiency rebate pilot program within the Department of Public Utilities; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2887) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others relative to the cost of electricity for ratepayers; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2890) of Stephen Kulik that the

Department of Energy Resources be directed to treat renewable generation equally when creating, developing and administering programs; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2891) of Stephen Kulik relative to renewable energy certificates; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2892) of Stephen Kulik and others relative to double utility poles; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2893) of Stephen Kulik and others relative to the authority of the Attorney General in reviewing certain applications that seek to increase the supply of gas and other non-renewable energy resources available in the Commonwealth; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2894) of Marc T. Lombardo for legislation to authorize cities and towns to prohibit the use of double poles by utility companies for longer than ninety days; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2896) of John J. Mahoney relative to implementing competitive bidding processes for solar power procurement and net metering facilities; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2897) of John J. Mahoney relative to reimbursable expenses for the towing of commercial and non-commercial vehicles; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2898) of Brian R. Mannal for legislation to prohibit the siting of wind turbines within 3,000 feet of a residence or residentially zoned property; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2899) of Paul W. Mark and others for legislation to establish a home heating commission; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2900) of Paul W. Mark relative to transparency within the natural gas and electric distribution sectors; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2902) of Mathew Muratore, Viriato M. deMacedo and Angelo L. D'Emilia relative to water sub-metering in manufactured housing communities; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2903) of Shaunna L. O'Connell and Marc T. Lombardo for legislation to direct the Energy Facilities Siting Board to include estimated costs in reports on proposed generating facilities; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2905) of Tom Sannicandro, Brian M. Ashe and Marjorie C. Decker relative to reverse vending machine bottle and can deposit redemption; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2906) of Tom Sannicandro and Anne M. Gobi for legislation to phase out coal burning in the production of electricity; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2907) of Tom Sannicandro and Denise Provost relative to the protection of the public interest by the Department of Telecommunications and Cable in cable mergers; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2908) of John W. Scibak and Carolyn C. Dykema relative to the certification and regulation by the Department of Public Utilities of persons engaged in the consensual and voluntary towing of motor vehicles; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2910) of Frank I. Smizik, James B. Eldridge and Paul R. Heroux relative to comprehensive siting reform for certain land based wind projects; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2911) of Frank I. Smizik and others relative to net metering by utility companies; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2912) of Frank I. Smizik

and others relative to identifying cost-effective energy savings for gas and electric customers in the Commonwealth; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2913) of Todd M. Smola, David T. Vieira and Bruce J. Ayers for legislation to require certain wind turbine projects to report production statistics; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2914) of Todd M. Smola, David T. Vieira and Bruce J. Ayers relative to accountability of public funds used for wind turbines; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2915) of Theodore C. Speliotis relative to allowing line workers to work on certain high voltage live wires, electrical equipment and other energized conductors; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2916) of Thomas M. Stanley and others for legislation to require deposits on certain non-carbonated beverage containers; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2917) of Timothy J. Toomey, Jr., relative to consumer choice of electricity from renewable sources; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2918) of Aaron Vega and Dennis A. Rosa for legislation to establish a deadline for the Department of Public Utilities to respond for requests for adjustments of maximum towing charges; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2919) of David T. Vieira and others relative to establishing energy relief funds to provide relief for detrimental health effects and property losses caused by wind energy generation; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2920) of Chris Walsh for legislation to require municipalities to institute a municipal zero waste trash and expanded recycling program to qualify as a green community, so-called; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3306) of James J. Dwyer and others for legislation to authorize the Department of Telecommunications and Cable to establish a program to require persons providing telephone services to verify the commercial nature of the service and to regulate the installation of multiple lines; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3307) of Carolyn C. Dykema and others that wireless service providers be required to make available for download at least one application that prohibits texting while driving; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3309) of Stephen Kulik and others relative to providing certain property owners with royalties related to the extraction of natural gas; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3310) of David M. Nangle relative to payments for cable services; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3525) of James Arciero relative to voluntary participation by retail electric customers in a municipal or group aggregation program.; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3527) of Michelle M. DuBois and others relative to the environmental impact documents required to apply for a permit to construct an electric generating facility; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3528) of John V. Fernandes and others relative to the process for increasing seasonal utility rates; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3530) of Russell E. Holmes for legislation to require notification to owners of real estate in areas scheduled for certain public utility construction; the petition (accompanied

by bill, House, No. 3531) of Brian R. Mannal and Frank A. Moran for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the cost of gasoline, oil, natural gas and electricity on Cape Cod and the Islands; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3533) of Paul W. Mark for legislation to require the approval by the Department of Public Utilities of proposed rate increases by electric companies; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3534) of Harold P. Naughton, Jr., for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the Northeast Energy Direct Pipeline Project proposed by the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3579) of James M. Cantwell and Stephen L. DiNatale for legislation to further regulate propane sales and usage fees; and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3776) of Stephen Kulik and others relative to adjudicatory proceedings involving gas and electric companies, reports recommending that the accompanying order (House, No. 4177) ought to be adopted.

For the committee,

THOMAS A. GOLDEN, JR.

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April 7, 2016.

Ordered, That the committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy be authorized to sit during a recess of the General Court to make an investigation and study of House documents numbered 755, 772, 2847, 2848, 2852, 2859, 2860, 2864, 2865, 2866, 2867, 2868, 2869, 2870, 2872, 2873, 2874, 2875, 2876, 2877, 2879, 2880, 2882, 2883, 2884, 2885, 2886, 2887, 2890, 2891, 2892, 2893, 2894, 2896, 2897, 2898, 2899, 2900, 2902, 2903, 2905, 2906, 2907, 2908, 2910, 2911, 2912, 2913, 2914, 2915, 2916, 2917, 2918, 2919, 2920, 3306, 3307, 3309, 3310, 3525, 3527, 3528, 3530, 3531, 3533, 3534, 3579, 3724 and 3776, relative to telecommunications, utilities and energy issues.

Said committee shall report to the General Court the results of its investigation and study and its recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry such recommendations into effect, by filing the same with the Clerk of the House of Representatives on or before December 31, 2016.