

HOUSE No. 2910

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:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>David M. Nangle</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/16/2019</i>
<i>Michael F. Rush</i>	<i>Norfolk and Suffolk</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Angelo L. D'Emilia</i>	<i>8th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Paul F. Tucker</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Randy Hunt</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Edward J. Kennedy</i>	<i>First Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Mathew J. Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>John Barrett, III</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>William L. Crocker, Jr.</i>	<i>2nd Barnstable</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Denise C. Garlick</i>	<i>13th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Bud L. Williams</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>

HOUSE No. 2910

By Mr. Nangle of Lowell, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2910) of David M. Nangle and others relative to payments for cable services. Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1768 OF 2017-2018.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)

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 2016
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.