

HOUSE No. 3220

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jeffrey N. Roy

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 relative to advanced metering infrastructure in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 3220

By Representative Roy of Franklin, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3220) of Jeffrey N. Roy relative to advanced metering infrastructure. Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act relative to advanced metering infrastructure in the Commonwealth.

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. Chapter 164 of the General Laws, as so appearing in the 2018 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting before the definition of “Aggregator” the following
3 definition:

4 “Advanced Metering Infrastructure,” means a meter and network communications
5 technology that measures, records, and transmits electricity usage by the end user at a minimum
6 of hourly intervals and is capable of providing data to the end user and authorized third parties in
7 real time or near real time.

8 SECTION 2. Chapter 164 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
9 inserting after section 116B the following section:

10 SECTION 116C: Advanced Metering Infrastructure

11 (a) Distribution companies deploying advanced metering infrastructure in their
12 territories shall establish a joint, centralized data repository to allow customers and third parties,

13 including competitive suppliers, access to advanced metering data, including billing, interval
14 usage, and load data, in near-real time for all customer classes cost-effective manner approved by
15 the department.

16 (b) A non-utility competitive supplier of energy, pursuant to section 1D of chapter 164
17 or other third party is entitled to access to detailed advanced metering infrastructure customer
18 data, subject to appropriate customer approval and protections. A customer's intent to enroll on a
19 non-utility competitive supplier of energy or third party's product is considered approval for the
20 purposes of this section.

21 (c) Electric customers may opt out of inclusion in the implementation of advanced
22 metering infrastructure with notice to the distribution company. Upon receiving such notice, the
23 distribution company shall remove the customer from the implementation plan, notify the
24 department of the customer's decision to not be a part of such implementation plan in a manner
25 determined by the department, and charge such a customer any reasonable and necessary fees for
26 delivering non-advanced metering service.

27 (d) A non-utility competitive supplier of energy, pursuant to section 1D of chapter 164,
28 may provide consolidated billing services to electric customers utilizing advanced metering
29 infrastructure. For a competitive supplier of energy who implements supplier consolidated billing
30 services for their customers, said competitive supplier of energy shall be subject to the same
31 customer protection rules and requirements as distribution companies for suspension,
32 disconnection, and reconnection of electric services.

33 (e) Distribution companies shall implement accelerated switching permitting a
34 residential or small commercial electric customer to change electric suppliers within three

35 business days. Customers moving within a distribution company's territory shall be permitted to
36 transfer their competitive supplier of energy directly to their new service location without being
37 required to switch to an interim rate provided by the distribution company or other supplier.

38 Customers establishing electric service shall be permitted to take service from their competitive
39 energy supplier on day one of service. Customers shall not be required to take basic service from
40 a distribution company prior to selecting and switching to a competitive supplier.

41 (f) Within 180 days of enactment of this legislation, all distribution companies
42 operating within the state shall submit a plan for implementation of advanced metering data
43 access protocols to the department for approval. The department shall approve or reject such a
44 plan within 90-days of receipt. The department shall provide rules and protocols for ensuring the
45 timely rehearing of a rejected plan and means to make such plans acceptable to the department.
46 All electric companies are expected to have approved plans at the department within 1 year of
47 enactment unless good cause shown. Approved plans should implement advanced metering data
48 access to all customer classes and authorized third parties, including competitive suppliers,
49 within 5 years of approval, unless the department determines that such a timeline would create
50 undue costs to consumers, compromise reliability of electric service, or compromise safe
51 operation of the electric grid. Distribution companies shall make regular updates to the
52 department on the progress towards implementing advanced metering infrastructure in their
53 territory, no less than quarterly.

54 (g) Distribution companies shall be entitled to recovery of prudent and necessary
55 expenses for the implementation of advanced metering data repositories. The department may
56 also implement penalties for failure of distribution companies to meet implementation goals.

57 (h) The department shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary for the
58 implementation of this section within one year of the implementation of this act.

59 SECTION 3. Section 116(a) of chapter 116 shall be implemented no later than 12
60 months after the effective date of this act.