

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Estela A. Reyes

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 smart meters.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Estela A. Reyes</i>	<i>4th Essex</i>	<i>1/17/2025</i>

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[Pin Slip]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act relative to smart meters.

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

1 Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to
2 maintain public health, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the
3 immediate preservation of the public health.

4 Chapter 164 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby
5 amended by inserting after section 116B the following section:-

6 SECTION 116C: Smart/wireless utility meter information

7 a) As used in this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

8 (1) “Electromechanical analog meter”, means a purely electric and mechanical device,
9 using no electronic components, no switch mode power supply, no transmitter, no antenna, and
10 no radio frequency emissions.

11 (2) “Utility company”, shall mean an electric, gas, or water company, or town or city
12 owned utility or other utility provider.

13 (3) “Wireless meter” shall mean: Any transmitting metering device with electronic
14 components and/or any electric or battery operated meter that is capable of measuring, recording,
15 and sending data by means of a wireless signal from a utility consumer or member to a utility
16 company, municipality, or cooperative association in a manner utilizing one-way
17 communication, two-way communication, or a combination of one-way and two-way
18 communication either through the meter itself or through a device ancillary to the meter.
19 Common names include, but are not limited to, AMR, ERT, smart, AMI, and Comprehensive
20 Advanced Metering Plan CAMP.

21 (4) “Equivalent technology” shall mean utility infrastructure that communicates data
22 using wireless frequencies, but which may be undisclosed due to proprietary rights.

23 b) The department of public utilities shall direct utility companies to provide ratepayers
24 the following:

25 (1) a choice of the type of utility meters to be installed and operated on their places of
26 residence, property or business; among the choices offered shall be the installation and ongoing
27 operation of an "electromechanical analog meter"; and

28 (2) the ability to retain and operate an “electromechanical analog meter” on an ongoing
29 basis at no cost; and

30 (3) the right to replacement of a wireless meter with a non-transmitting electromechanical
31 meter at no cost.

32 c) The utility companies shall be required to obtain the ratepayer’s written consent:

33 (1) before installing wireless meters or "equivalent technology" on the ratepayer's
34 property and

35 (2) before altering the functionality of said meters

36 d) The utility companies shall provide written notice to ratepayers within 90 days of the
37 effective date of this act for the purpose of informing said ratepayers if wireless meters have
38 been installed on their properties. Ratepayers shall have the right to request that the utility
39 companies remove said wireless meters and install in their place electromechanical analog
40 meters that emit no radiofrequency electromagnetic radiation. There shall be no cost or other
41 periodic usage charges to the ratepayer for such removal, replacement installation, and use of a
42 non-wireless utility meter. The utility company shall promptly comply with such removal and
43 replacement installation request made by the ratepayer to said company.

44 e) Utility companies are:

45 (1) prohibited from shutting off service to a ratepayer based on the ratepayer's utility
46 usage or on the ratepayer having electromechanical analog meters;

47 (2) prohibited from imposing any disincentive on a ratepayer for not consenting to the
48 installation or use of wireless meters;

49 (3) required to notify ratepayers in writing that the installation and use of wireless meters
50 are not mandated by state or federal law and are not permitted without the ratepayer's consent;

51 (4) prohibited from discriminating against ratepayers who may have medical conditions
52 that are exacerbated by exposures to pulsed microwave radio frequencies; and

53 (5) prohibited from installing "equivalent technology", such as direct wireless connection
54 to devices in the home or business, on poles or in any other manner near the home or business of
55 an individual requesting a non-transmitting meter.

56 f) The department of public utilities shall establish terms and conditions to comply with
57 the requirements of this section.

58 g) This section shall take effect upon its passage.