

# HOUSE . . . . No. 56

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Accompanying the third recommendation of the Department of Public Utilities (House, No. 53). Power and Light.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Four.

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### AN ACT RELATING TO PRIORITY OF EMERGENCY CALLS ON PARTY LINE TELEPHONES.

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

1 Chapter 166 of the General Laws is hereby amended  
2 by inserting after section 15B the following section:—  
3 *Section 15C.* Any person who shall wilfully refuse  
4 to yield or surrender the use of a party telephone line  
5 to another person for the purpose of permitting such  
6 other person to report a fire or to summons police,  
7 medical or other aid in case of emergency and any  
8 person who shall ask for or request the use of such  
9 party line on pretext that such an emergency exists  
10 knowing that no such emergency in fact does exist  
11 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be pun-  
12 ished by a fine of not less than fifty dollars nor more  
13 than five hundred dollars. Every telephone company  
14 doing business in the commonwealth shall print a  
15 copy of this section in a prominent place in each  
16 telephone directory published by it after the effective  
17 date of this act.

