
By Mr. Sturgis of Lee, petition of William Winnegar for legislation to regulate prices for gasoline and petroleum products in the Commonwealth. Mercantile Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT REGULATING PRICES OF GASOLINE AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS WHEN SOLD IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

1 *Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would
2 tend to defeat its purpose, which is to regulate the rates,
3 charges and prices to be charged for petroleum distillate,
4 therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law,
5 necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
6 convenience.

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

1 The General Laws are hereby amended by inserting
2 after chapter 164 the following:

3 CHAPTER 164A.

4 SALE OF GASOLINE AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS.

5 *Section 1.* The sale and distribution of petroleum
6 distillate and gasoline products in the commonwealth
7 for use in motor vehicles or other purposes shall be
8 deemed to be affected with a public interest, and the
9 rates, prices and charges to be charged therefor shall be
10 subject to regulation and supervision of the department
11 of public utilities, herein called the "department", in
12 the manner provided with respect to services and prod-
13 ucts furnished or sold by public utilities but only to
14 the extent herein provided.

15 *Section 2.* Wholesale and retail distributors of such
16 distillate and products shall, with respect to their sale
17 and distribution and the rates, prices and charges to be
18 charged therefor, be subject to and shall comply with
19 the provisions of section ninety-four of chapter one hun-
20 dred and sixty-four of the General Laws, in the same
21 manner and to the same extent as the companies de-
22 scribed therein are subject to and must comply with the
23 said provisions with respect to the commodities sold and
24 distributed by such other companies.

25 *Section 3.* This act shall take effect thirty days after
26 its passage.