

# HOUSE . . . . No. 375

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By Mr. Hansen of Waltham (by request), petition of Wycliffe C. Marshall that certain contracts of telephone companies for service rendered be subject to approval by the Department of Public Utilities. Power and Light.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty-Three.

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An Act subjecting to Approval of the Department of Public Utilities Certain Contracts of Telephone Companies for Services rendered.

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

*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 one hundred and sixty-six of the General  
2 Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section  
3 fifteen, a new section designated as section fifteen B,  
4 as follows;—

5 *Section 15B.* No telephone company shall, with-  
6 out the approval of the department, hereafter enter  
7 into a contract with a company related to it as an  
8 affiliated company, as defined in section fifteen A,  
9 covering a period in excess of four months, by virtue

10 of which any compensation is to be paid by the said  
11 telephone company in whole or in part for services  
12 rendered by such affiliated company, unless such  
13 contract contains a provision subjecting the amount  
14 of compensation to be paid thereunder to review and  
15 determination by the department in any proceeding  
16 brought before it about the charges for telephone  
17 service by said telephone company. In any such pro-  
18 ceeding the department may review and determine  
19 the amount of compensation to be thereafter paid  
20 under a contract containing such provision for review,  
21 and, if it appears that the amount agreed on is ex-  
22 cessive, the department may declare the said contract  
23 to be terminated forthwith, even if no bad faith be  
24 found.

25 Any contract covering a period in excess of four  
26 months, subject to approval as aforesaid, and which  
27 is not so approved or which does not contain such  
28 provision for review, shall be null and void.