

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 30

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By Mr. Erickson of Worcester, petition of Sven A. Erickson that corporations furnishing electricity or gas be prohibited from making charges for use of meters. Power and Light.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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An Act prohibiting the Establishment or Maintenance of Charges for Use of Meters by Corporations furnishing Electricity or Gas.

1 *Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act will  
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 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 SECTION 1. Section one hundred and nineteen of  
2 chapter one hundred and sixty-four of the General  
3 Laws, as amended by chapter four hundred and four  
4 of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-one, is  
5 hereby further amended by striking out at the begin-  
6 ning thereof the following: — “Unless approval there-  
7 for is secured from the department”, — so as to read  
8 as follows: — *Section 119.* No charge shall be made  
9 by a corporation furnishing electricity for lighting  
10 purposes or gas for the use of a meter during any

11 portion of twelve consecutive months if the con-  
12 sumer during that time uses electricity to the value  
13 of nine dollars, or gas to the value of seven dollars,  
14 and whoever makes a charge therefor contrary to  
15 this section shall be punished by a fine not exceeding  
16 one hundred dollars.

1 SECTION 2. Any approval heretofore given by the  
2 department to a schedule of rates which included  
3 such a charge by any corporation shall become null  
4 and void upon the effective date of the passage of  
5 this act.