

# HOUSE . . . . No. 208

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By Messrs. Barry and Alexander F. Sullivan of Boston, petition of Thomas E. Barry, Alexander F. Sullivan and Thomas Dorgan that corporations furnishing electricity or gas be prohibited from establishing charges for use of meters. Power and Light.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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An Act prohibiting the Establishment or the Maintenance of a Charge for the 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 de-  
3 clared 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 be-  
6 ginning thereof the following: — “Unless approval  
7 therefor is secured from the department”, — so as to  
8 read as follows: — *Section 119.* No charge shall be  
9 made by a corporation furnishing electricity for

10 lighting purposes or gas for the use of a meter during  
11 any 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.