

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 781

By Mr. DeNormandie of Lincoln, petition of Frank W. Kilburn, Jr., and another that cities and towns be authorized to contribute toward the cost of placing electric transmission lines underground. Power and Light.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

### AN ACT AUTHORIZING CITIES AND TOWNS TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARD THE COST OF PLACING ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINES UNDERGROUND.

*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 72 of chapter 164 of the General Laws is  
2 hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following pro-  
3 visions: — If, within three months following the final determina-  
4 tion that the proposed transmission line is necessary, that it will  
5 serve the public convenience, and is consistent with the public  
6 interest, or in case of such a final determination made prior to  
7 the passage of this act, at any time prior to the actual construc-  
8 tion of such line, the city council of any city or the inhabitants of  
9 any town shall determine by a two-thirds vote that such city or  
10 town would be adversely affected by the placing and mainte-  
11 nance of such transmission line upon structures above the  
12 ground, it may, either alone or together with any other city or  
13 cities or town or towns which shall have made a similar determi-  
14 nation, enter or offer to enter into an agreement with the electric  
15 company involved to pay any part of all of the amount by which  
16 the cost of placing such line underground would exceed the cost  
17 of placing it upon structures above the ground. The agreement  
18 may also provide that the city or cities or town or towns will  
19 reimburse said electric company for the cost of any relocation  
20 of said line or any portion thereof legally ordered after the line  
21 has been placed underground. Any amount required to be paid

22 by any city or town under such an agreement may be borrowed  
23 by it under clause (15) of section eight of chapter forty-four of  
24 the General Laws. The department shall, upon application by  
25 any such city or town, or by the electric company involved, de-  
26 termine any question as to the amount of such excess cost or  
27 cost of relocation or as to the manner or time of payment thereof  
28 upon which the parties are unable to agree. The department  
29 shall, if it determines the total contributions offered by the city or  
30 cities or town or towns to be reasonable and consistent with the  
31 public interest, require such line to be placed or relocated under-  
32 ground.

1 SECTION 2. Section 8 of chapter 44 of the General Laws is  
2 hereby amended by inserting after clause (14) the following  
3 clause:—

4 (15) For contributions toward the cost of placing or relocating  
5 electric transmission lines underground, as provided in sec-  
6 tion seventy-two of chapter one hundred and sixty-four of the  
Gneral Laws, twenty-five years.

1 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.