

HOUSE No. 2676

By Mr. Ambler of Weymouth, petition of Robert H. Quinn (Attorney General), Robert B. Ambler, Raymond M. LaFontaine, Alan D. Sisitsky, Theodore J. Aleixo, Jr., Allan R. McKinnon and another that the Department of Public Utilities be required to consider the quality of service before approving rates of gas and electric companies. Government Regulations.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TO CONSIDER THE QUALITY OF SERVICE BEFORE APPROVING RATES OF GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANIES.

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 second paragraph of section 94, chapter 164 of the
2 General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the first
3 sentence and inserting in place thereof the following two sen-
4 tences: —

5 The department may investigate the propriety of any pro-
6 posed rate, price or charge and in determining whether or not a
7 proposed rate is justified, the department shall, among other
8 things, take into consideration any evidence concerning the
9 quality of the particular company's services. The department
10 may, pending such investigation and decision thereof, by order
11 served upon the company affected thereby, suspend the taking
12 effect thereof, from time to time, but not for a period longer
13 than ten months beyond the time when such rate, price or
14 charge would otherwise become effective.

