

HOUSE No. 2746

By Mr. Donnelly of Boston, petition of Brian J. Donnelly and Raymond L. Flynn that gas and electric companies be prohibited from terminating utility services for persons sixty-five years or older. Government Regulations.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT REGARDING TERMINATION OF UTILITY SERVICE TO PERSONS SIXTY-FIVE YEARS OR OLDER.

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 164 of the General Laws as most recently amended by
- 2 Chapters 858 and 860 of the Acts of 1973 is hereby further
- 3 amended by adding the following new paragraph:—
- 4 *Section 124E.* No gas or electric utility, intending to shut off gas
- 5 or electricity to any home wherever a person 65 years or older
- 6 resides, shall do so prior to exhausting all reasonable possibilities
- 7 other than termination for collection of any outstanding
- 8 indebtedness. The department shall establish such rules and
- 9 regulations to implement this section and provide standards
- 10 thereunder.

