

# SENATE . . . . . No. 473

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By Mr. Shea, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 473) of Philip L. Shea for legislation to impose damages upon telephone companies which cause involuntary changes of telephone numbers of its subscribers. Government Regulations.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty.

AN ACT IMPOSING DAMAGES UPON TELEPHONE COMPANIES WHICH CAUSE INVOLUNTARY CHANGES OF TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF ITS SUBSCRIBERS.

*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 166 of the General Laws is hereby amended by in-
- 2 serting after section 15D the following section: —
- 3 *Section 15E.* Any telephone company which causes the
- 4 telephone number or numbers of a subscriber to be involun-
- 5 tarily changed to a different number or numbers shall be
- 6 liable to said subscriber for damages arising from said change
- 7 or changes. Said damages shall not exceed one thousand dol-
- 8 lars for such change of one number of an individual subscriber
- 9 nor exceed three thousand dollars for such changes to more
- 10 than one number of an individual subscriber. Said damages
- 11 shall be based upon costs necessarily incurred to the sub-
- 12 scriber so damaged by notification of the general public and
- 13 changes in business and private stationery and other spe-
- 14 cific damages directly caused by said involuntary change or
- 15 changes so made.

