

By Mr. Walsh, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 372) of Joseph B. Walsh and L. William Law, Jr., for legislation to authorize the Department of Public Utilities to establish minimum meter rentals. Government Regulations.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TO
ESTABLISH MINIMUM METER RENTALS**

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 is hereby amended by striking out section 119 and
2 inserting in its place the following section:

3 No charge for the use of a meter or for other similar purpose
4 covering any portion of twelve consecutive months in connection
5 with the supply of gas or electricity for domestic use only shall
6 be made by a corporation, other than a municipality, furnishing
7 the same, in addition to the charge for the gas or electricity
8 delivered, if the consumer during such time uses electricity to the
9 value of nine dollars or gas to the value of seven dollars or such
10 other values as the department shall from time to time approve;
11 provided that, subject to the approval of the department, rates
12 may be graduated according to the quantities of gas or electricity
13 used, and, subject to like approval, such a charge may be made
14 to customers furnished gas or electricity seasonally or under
15 promotional rates or room or area rates.

16 Whoever makes a charge contrary to this section shall be
17 punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars. This
18 section shall not apply to charges for sale or rental of appliances.

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The Committee of the ...

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