

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 5556

By Mr. Flaherty, petition of Michael F. Flaherty that provision be made for civil penalties relative to the theft of electricity. Criminal Justice.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

### AN ACT PROVIDING FOR CIVIL PENALTIES IN RELATION TO THEFT OF ELECTRICITY.

*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 is hereby amended by inserting  
2 after Section 127 the following new section: —  
3 *Section 127A.* Whoever unlawfully and intentionally injures or  
4 destroys, or suffers to be injured or destroyed, any meter, pipe,  
5 conduit, wire, line, pole, lamp or other apparatus belonging to a  
6 corporation engaged in the manufacture or sale of electricity or to  
7 any person, or unlawfully and intentionally prevents an electric  
8 meter from duly registering the quantity of electricity supplied, or  
9 in any way interfered with its proper action or just registration, or,  
10 without the consent of such corporation or person, unlawfully and  
11 intentionally diverts or suffers to be diverted any electric current  
12 from any wire of such corporation or person, or otherwise unlaw-  
13 fully and intentionally uses or causes to be used, without the  
14 consent of such corporation or person, any electricity manufac-  
15 tured or distributed by such corporation or person for triple the  
16 amount of damages sustained thereby or one thousand dollars  
17 whichever is greater. Damages shall include the value of the elec-  
18 tricity used and the cost of equipment repair and replacement.

