

HOUSE No. 160

By Mr. Dorgan of Boston, petition of Wycliffe C. Marshall for legislation to establish retail prices of electricity for domestic and commercial use within the Commonwealth. Power and Light.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty-Five.

An Act establishing the Retail Prices of Electricity for Domestic and Commercial Service within the Commonwealth.

1 *Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would
2 tend to defeat its purpose, therefore it is hereby de-
3 clared to be an emergency law, necessary for the
4 immediate preservation of the public welfare.

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 General Laws are hereby amended by inserting
2 after chapter one hundred and sixty-four the following
3 new chapter: —

4

CHAPTER 164A.

5 RETAIL PRICES OF ELECTRICITY FOR DOMESTIC AND
6 COMMERCIAL SERVICE WITHIN THE COMMONWEALTH
7 OF MASSACHUSETTS.

8 *Section 1.* In this chapter, unless the context
9 otherwise requires, the following words shall have the
10 following meanings:

11 “Department”, the department of public utilities.

12 “Electric company”, a corporation organized under
13 the laws of the commonwealth for the purpose of
14 making by means of water power, steam power or
15 otherwise, and selling, or distributing and selling,
16 electricity within the commonwealth, or authorized
17 by special act so to do, even though subsequently
18 authorized to make or sell gas. The term “electric
19 company” shall include all persons, firms, associa-
20 tions and private corporations which own or operate
21 works or a distributing plant for the manufacture and
22 sale or distribution and sale of electricity within the
23 commonwealth.

24 “Domestic customer”, a customer of an electric
25 company who buys electricity from said company for
26 his lighting purposes and all other domestic uses in an
27 individual private dwelling or in an individual apart-
28 ment.

29 “Commercial customer”, a customer of an electric
30 company who buys electricity from said company for
31 his commercial lighting purposes and all power pur-
32 poses where motors or power appliances of three
33 horse-power or less are connected with the service.

34 “Horse-power”, seven hundred and forty-six watts.
35 *Section 2.* This chapter shall apply to electric
36 companies organized or chartered under any general

37 or special laws applicable thereto, operating within the
38 commonwealth of Massachusetts, and to the respec-
39 tive officers and stockholders of such corporations.

40 *Section 3.* There shall be only one schedule of
41 retail rates, prices and charges by electric companies
42 for the sale and distribution of electricity to domestic
43 or residential customers within the commonwealth.
44 The said schedule shall be as follows:

Kilowatt Hours of Electricity delivered Each Month to a Domestic or Residential Customer.	Maximum Rate, Price, or Charge per Kilowatt Hour (Cents).
45 First fifteen kilowatt hours . . .	As fixed and adjusted by the department for each elec- tric company under the provisions of sections ninety-three and ninety- four of chapter one hun- dred and sixty-four of the General Laws.
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53 Next thirty-five kilowatt hours . . .	Not more than four cents.
54 Next fifty kilowatt hours . . .	Not more than three cents.
55 Next one hundred kilowatt hours . . .	Not more than two cents.
56 All over two hundred kilowatt hours	Not more than one and one half cents.
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58 Monthly minimum charge . . .	Seventy-five cents.

59 All electric companies operating within the com-
60 monwealth shall file with the department their respec-
61 tive schedules of said domestic or residential rates,
62 prices and charges within sixty days after the passage
63 of this act.

64 *Section 4.* There shall be only one schedule of retail
65 rates, prices and charges by electric companies for the
66 sale and distribution of electricity to commercial or
67 business customers within the commonwealth. The
68 said schedule shall be as follows:

Kilowatt Hours of Electricity delivered Each Month to a Commercial or Business Customer.	Maximum Rate, Price, or Charge per Kilowatt Hour (Cents).
69 First fifty kilowatt hours	As fixed and adjusted by the
70	department for each elec-
71	tric company under the
72	provisions of sections
73	ninety-three and ninety-
74	four of chapter one hun-
75	dred and sixty-four of the
76	General Laws.
77 Next one hundred kilowatt hours .	Not more than four cents.
78 Next one hundred and fifty kilowatt	
79 hours	Not more than three cents.
80 Next three hundred kilowatt hours	Not more than two cents.
81 All over six hundred kilowatt hours	Not more than one and one
82	half cents.
83 Monthly minimum charge	Seventy-five cents.

84 All electric companies operating within the common-
85 wealth shall file with the department their respective
86 schedules of said commercial or business rates, prices
87 and charges within sixty days after the passage of this
88 act.

89 *Section 5.* Reductions in the rates, prices and
90 charges in the said domestic and commercial schedules
91 may be made under the provisions of sections ninety-
92 three and/or ninety-four of chapter one hundred and
93 sixty-four of the General Laws.

94 *Section 6.* The department shall enforce the provi-
95 sions of this chapter by means of the enforcement
96 powers conferred upon it by chapter one hundred and
97 sixty-four of the General Laws.