

# HOUSE . . . . No. 2179

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 20, 1913.

The joint committee on the Judiciary, to whom were referred the special report of the Attorney-General, the Board of Railroad Commissioners, the Board of Gas and Electric Light Commissioners and a joint special committee of the General Court, under chapter 113 of the resolves of the year 1912, relative to the holding by voluntary associations or certain corporations of shares of public service corporations (House, No. 1788); and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 806) of George N. Nichols for legislation to protect investors in the stock of certain public service corporations, report (in part on the former) the accompanying bill.

For the committee,

CHANNING H. COX.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirteen.

### AN ACT

Relative to the Use of Names or Titles of Public Service Corporations.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. No person, partnership or association own-  
2 ing, holding or controlling shares of stock of any public  
3 service corporation shall hereafter use any name or title or  
4 other word or words that, in the opinion of the board of  
5 commissioners having jurisdiction over the public service  
6 corporations the shares of which are or are to be held,  
7 owned or controlled by such person, partnership or associa-  
8 tion, might lead the public to believe that such person,  
9 partnership or association is a public service corporation or  
10 that its business is that of a public service corporation.

1 SECTION 2. The board of railroad commissioners in case  
2 of corporations under its jurisdiction, and the board of gas  
3 and electric light commissioners in case of corporations  
4 under its jurisdiction, the shares of which are or are to be  
5 held, owned or controlled by any person, partnership or  
6 association specified in section one, are hereby authorized

7 to investigate and determine whether any such person, part-  
8 nership or association is violating the provisions of section  
9 one; and any person, partnership, or association violating  
10 any provision of section one shall forfeit to the common-  
11 wealth one hundred dollars a day for every day or part  
12 thereof during which such violation continues after the  
13 determination aforesaid. Any violation of the provisions of  
14 section one shall forthwith be reported by the board of com-  
15 missioners to the attorney-general, after said determination  
16 and notice thereof to such person, partnership or association.  
17 The said forfeiture may be recovered by an information or  
18 other appropriate proceeding brought in the supreme judicial  
19 court or superior court in the name of the attorney-general.  
20 Upon such information or other proceeding the court may  
21 issue an injunction restraining such person, partnership or  
22 association from further prosecution of its business within  
23 the commonwealth during the pendency of such proceeding  
24 or for all time, and may make such other order or decree as  
25 equity and justice may require.

1 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

