

By Mr. Speliotis of Danvers, petition of Theodore C. Speliotis relative to state aid to cities and towns for developing and implementing alternate energy resources programs. Taxation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND ALTERNATE ENERGY RESOURCES.

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 76C the following section:—

3 *Section 76D.* As used in this section, the following words and
4 terms shall have the following meanings; unless the context indi-
5 cates otherwise:—

6 “Utility Company” — “Any group, corporation, person or entity
7 that engages in the generation and distribution of electric power.”

8 “Alternative Energy Resources” — “resources not including
9 current energy producing facilities using oil, natural gas, coal or
10 enriched uranium, but resources including the use of wood, wind,
11 solar, geothermal, hydroelectric, ocean thermal electric conserva-
12 tion, trash conversion and conservation.”

13 In order to encourage the development of alternative energy
14 resources, any utility company operating or planning to operate
15 electric generating facilities three hundred megawatts or larger in
16 size shall turn over to the commonwealth, property tax monies
17 which would otherwise be paid on an annual basis to the municipi-
18 pality in which the utility company’s existing or proposed electric
19 generating facility is located, provided however, that before paying
20 such property tax money to the commonwealth, the utility com-
21 pany shall subtract from the total such an amount of money equal
22 to the assessed value of the land, but not of any buildings thereon,

23 on which their proposed or existing electric generating facility is
24 located, and pay that money to the municipality in which the utility
25 company's existing or proposed electric generating facility is locat-
26 ed.

27 The money collected by the commonwealth shall be placed in the
28 General Fund and shall be used to allow the commonwealth to
29 assist municipalities in developing and implementing alternative
30 energy resource programs. Such programs shall consist of, but not
31 be limited to (1) conducting local and regional energy resource
32 studies to determine what type(s) of energy program(s) would best
33 suit the area, and (2) helping municipalities identify, develop and
34 implement appropriate programs for their area.

35 The utility companies, the commonwealth and municipalities
36 within the commonwealth shall identify impacts caused by the
37 introduction of electric generating facilities within a certain geo-
38 graphic area.

39 Based upon a pre-developed set of impact criteria and their
40 associated costs, said municipalities shall receive a portion of the
41 property tax money collected by the commonwealth to amortize
42 impacts and relieve any burdens upon municipalities.