
By Mr. Umana, a petition of Martin A. Coughlin for legislation to further regulate public utility companies with relation to discontinuance of service for non-payment of bills. Government Regulations.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand-Nine Hundred and Seventy-One.

AN ACT TO FURTHER REGULATE PUBLIC UTILITIES.

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. Emergency Law.

1 SECTION 2. A bill that would require any Public Utility
2 providing necessities of life which shall include gas, electricity,
3 and telephone to obtain a Court Hearing before any discon-
4 tinuance of such service for non-payment.

1 SECTION 3. No Public Utility such as gas, or electricity
2 which provide for heating or cooking in a residential apart-
3 ment may shut off or cause to be discontinued any such serv-
4 ice after 1 P.M. in the afternoon or before 8 A.M. in the morn-
5 ing, during weekdays Monday through Friday. No discon-
6 tinuance of service or shut off of service may be made because
7 of non-payment on Saturday or Sunday or on any Massa-
8 chusetts or Federal holiday.

1 SECTION 4. Any Utility found in violation of the above law
2 shall be responsible to pay the total cost incurred by the con-
3 sumer to provide temporary quarters for oneself or family
4 up to but not beyond \$1,000.00.

By the Senate, a resolution to amend A. Chapter for legislation to amend the several public utility companies with relation to the ownership of the same for the purpose of the Government Regulation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year one thousand nine hundred and twenty-one

THE SENATE TO FURTHER REGULATE PUBLIC UTILITIES

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

Section 1. Emergency Law.

Section 2. A bill that would require any Public Utility Company to provide service of the which shall include gas, electricity, and telephone to obtain a Court Hearing before any discontinuance of such service for nonpayment.

Section 3. No Public Utility such as gas, or electricity, which provides for heating or cooking in a residential apartment may shut off or cease to be discontinued any such service in the absence of the attorney or before 8 A.M. in the morning, during weekdays, Monday through Friday. No discontinuance of service or shut off of service may be made because of non-payment on Saturday or Sunday or on any Massachusetts or Federal Holiday.

Section 4. Any Public Utility found in violation of the above law shall be responsible to pay the total cost incurred by the consumer to provide temporary quarters for himself or family if such cost is not covered by the law.