

SENATE No. 415

By Mr. Morrissey, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 415) of Michael W. Morrissey for legislation to provide for strict liability for negligence of public utility companies and employees and to include gas safety regulators on all gas pipeline systems. Government Regulations.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and One.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE SAFER DISTRIBUTION AND DELIVERY OF NATURAL GAS.

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. Chapter 164 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 76D a new section as
3 follows:—

4 Section 76E. All natural gas pipeline companies, public utilities
5 companies or entities which perform such work for said natural
6 gas pipeline, cable television and public utilities companies shall
7 be strictly liable for the negligence, malfeasance or non-feasance
8 of their employees in the administration of the utility under
9 ground plant damage prevention system.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 164 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 105A a new section as
3 follows:—

4 Section 105B. All gas pipeline systems shall include a system
5 of gas safety regulators designed to prevent sudden changes in gas
6 pressure. The Department shall promulgate rules and regulations
7 to enforce the provisions of this section.

