

By Mr. Flaherty of Cambridge, petition of Charles F. Flaherty, Jr., for legislation to provide information to consumers through the labeling of electric appliances with appropriate measures of energy use and efficiency. Energy.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO CONSUMERS THROUGH THE LABELLING OF ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES WITH APPROPRIATE MEASURES OF ENERGY USE AND EFFICIENCY.

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. (a) For the purposes of this act, an appliance
2 shall be defined as any device that operates on alternating electrical
3 current and is used within a residential household.

4 (b) For the purposes of this act, "measures of energy use and
5 efficiency" shall include wattage and any computation of efficiency
6 based on generally-recognized physical laws.

1 SECTION 2. Within six months of the passage of this act, the
2 Secretary of Consumer Affairs shall promulgate rules and regula-
3 tions stipulating the units and format of measures of energy use
4 and efficiency that shall be provided to consumers at the time of
5 display or sale of any appliance. The manufacturer or distributor
6 of said appliance shall test the performance of the appliance ac-
7 cording to the designated measure or measures. The retailer of any
8 appliance shall provide the true results of said test in the proper
9 units to the consumer either through a label attached to the ap-
10 pliance or on an explanatory pamphlet readily available to all
11 buyers and potential buyers. The Secretary of Consumer Affairs
12 may designate different measures of energy use and efficiency to be
13 applied to appliances with different purposes, but all appliances

14 with the same purpose shall be measured according to the same
15 format and units of measure. Where Federal rules and regulations
16 have been promulgated regarding the labelling of appliances with
17 measures of energy use and efficiency, the measures designated by
18 the Secretary of Consumer Affairs shall include, but not necessari-
19 ly be limited to, the Federal measures.