

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 433

By Mr. Rogers of New Bedford, petition of George Rogers for legislation to prohibit long distance telephone carriers from assessing a service charge to certain elderly customers. Government Regulations.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT PROHIBITING ANY LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE CARRIER IN MASSACHUSETTS FROM ENGAGING IN CERTAIN UNETHICAL PRACTICES.

*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. Any long distance telephone carrier in Massachu-  
2 setts is hereby prohibited from charging elderly customers for not  
3 using long distance service by assessing a minimum or "service"  
4 charge to said elderly customers.

1 SECTION 2. Violation of this act shall result in a \$1,000 per  
2 day fine, per instance per day, per customer as long as the practice  
3 shall continue, such fines to be paid into the commonwealth's  
4 Elderly Affairs Secretariat for use by that secretariat in adminis-  
5 tering services for the elderly.

