

HOUSE No. 1312

By Mr. Moore of Uxbridge, petition of Richard T. Moore and William J. McManus II for legislation to promote water conservation. Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO PROMOTE CONSERVATION BY ALLOWING TENANTS TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE COST OF WATER AND SEWER.

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 127A of chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by adding the following paragraph thereto: —
3 Nothing contained in the code or any other regulation issued
4 by an agency, department, board, commission or authority of the
5 commonwealth or any political subdivision shall be deemed to
6 prohibit a tenant of residential premises from being obligated
7 to pay, through use of a meter or any other device installed at
8 the landlord's expense and designed to measure actual usage, the
9 cost of water or sewer service furnished to such premises, nor shall
10 any such obligation be deemed to violate standards of fitness for
11 human habitation from time to time applied by any court. Such
12 cost may be determined by the provider of such service or by the
13 landlord, and the foregoing provisions shall not be construed to
14 obligate any city, town or water or sewer company to render a
15 separate bill relating to any particular dwelling unit. Whenever
16 a tenant is obligated to pay the cost of water or sewer service as
17 authorized by the foregoing provisions, the landlord shall so
18 notify such tenant by a provision in the applicable rental agree-
19 ment or otherwise.

