

By Mr. Marzilli of Arlington, petition of J. James Marzilli, Jr., other members of the General Court and others relative to contract approval for the purchase of gas or electricity by utility companies. Energy.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT REQUIRING PUBLIC NOTICE PRIOR TO CONTRACT APPROVAL FOR THE PURCHASE OF GAS OR ELECTRICITY.

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

1 Chapter 164 of the General Laws as appearing in the 1992
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding after Section 94A,
3 the following new Section:

4 94A½. The department shall conduct an investigation and
5 public hearing prior to approval by the department of any contract
6 proposed by any gas or electric company for the purchase of gas
7 or electricity covering a period in excess of one year.

8 Any gas or electric company requesting approval of said
9 contract shall notify its ratepayers via its monthly billing invoice
10 of the time, date, and place of the public hearing, as well as the
11 name and location of the person or corporation whom the gas
12 or electric company is proposing to contract with for the purchase
13 of said gas or electricity.

14 Said ratepayers shall receive at least two-week notice prior to
15 the date of the public hearing. Intervenors shall have one week
16 following said public hearing to notify the department with a
17 "notice of intervention."

18 The department may require that notices of said hearing be
19 published in local newspapers as the department may select.

