HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 877 FILED ON: 1/15/2013

HOUSE . . . . . No. 2929

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Stephen L. DiNatale

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying:

An Act promoting storm resistant utility infrastructure upgrades.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Stephen L. DiNatale	*3rd Worcester*
Jennifer E. Benson	*37th Middlesex*
John V. Fernandes	*10th Worcester*
Chris Walsh	*6th Middlesex*
Cory Atkins	*14th Middlesex*
Denise Andrews	*2nd Franklin*

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By Mr. DiNatale of Fitchburg, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2929) of Stephen L. DiNatale and others for legislation to promote storm resistant utility infrastructure upgrades. Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act promoting storm resistant utility infrastructure upgrades.

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

SECTION 1. Section 85B of Chapter 164 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official Addition, is hereby amended by adding, after paragraph (8) in subsection (a), the following new paragraph:-

(9) identification of necessary upgrades to transmission and distribution infrastructure to ensure reliable service to customers, including, but not limited to, the replacement of damaged wires, transformers, conduits, or substations with storm-resistant, modernized technologies and other upgrades to prevent service disruption during emergencies.

SECTION 2. Said Section 85B of Chapter 164 of the General Laws is hereby further amended by adding after subsection (i) the following new subsection:-

(j) Each investor-owned electric distribution, transmission or natural gas distribution company, when implementing an emergency response plan, shall replace damaged or destroyed distribution or transmission infrastructure with upgraded, storm-resistant or other modernized infrastructure to prevent future service disruptions, as determined in advance by the department. The department shall consider and approve of such necessary upgrades annually in each emergency response plan.