

**SENATE . . . . . No.**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Ms. Flanagan**

*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 bill:

**An Act Amending Utility Rate Hearings.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Ms. Flanagan

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Worcester and Middlesex

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. S01918 OF 2007-2008.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand and Nine**

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AN ACT AMENDING UTILITY RATE HEARINGS.

*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. Chapter 25, Section 4A of the General Laws is amended by striking out the  
2 following: “Upon request of the mayor of a city or the selectman of town, or of a member of the  
3 general court or of twenty customers of the company affected, a public hearing ordered by the  
4 department, to be held in connection with any change in rates or reduction in or discontinuance  
5 of service, shall be held in the city or town or area wherein the company affected does business  
6 or in which any decision of the commission would apply” and inserting the following: “A public  
7 hearing shall be held in connection with any change in rates or reduction in or discontinuance of  
8 service. Said hearing shall be held in the service area affected by said change.”