

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Cynthia Stone Creem (BY REQUEST)**

*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 relative to gas meter readings.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Dain Oliver

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

30 Nod Hill Road  
Newton Highlands, MA 02461

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. S01927 OF 2007-2008.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

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### AN ACT RELATIVE TO GAS METER READINGS.

*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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, Section 119A of  
2 Chapter 164 of the General Laws of Massachusetts as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition is  
3 hereby amended by adding, after the first sentence, the following: “Billing of customers shall be  
4 based on actual readings. An estimate may only be used in an extraordinary situation where gas  
5 meters are inaccessible or unable to be read.”

6 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the department shall  
7 have the right to promulgate rules regarding actual meter readings or clarifying instances in  
8 which estimates may be used.

9 SECTION. The department shall establish a suitable punishment for each violation.

10 SECTION 4. This section shall take effect on June 1, 2009 and shall have no effect on services  
11 provided or bills levied prior to June 1, 2009.