

# SENATE NO. 1932

## **AN ACT** RELATIVE TO PROMOTING SAFETY BY MAKING GAS GATE BOXES EASILY ACCESSIBLE TO GAS COMPANY SERVICE EMPLOYEES AND EMERGENCY PUBLIC SERVICE PERSONNEL

*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 90 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2000 Official Edition, is hereby  
2 amended by inserting at the end thereof the following:

3 All gas gate boxes that are buried underground on private property or located under a sidewalk, street,  
4 road or in any other manner not immediately or easily accessible to gas company employees or  
5 emergency public safety personnel shall be replaced by a gas gate box that is easily and immediately  
6 accessible. If a gas gate box is not immediately and easily accessible, it must be made so by excavating  
7 it if necessary and marking it with a clear and functioning entrance door adequate to allow a gas utility  
8 employee or emergency public safety employee access to the gas shutoff control. Only gas company  
9 authorized employees and emergency public safety personnel shall have the means to shut off and turn  
10 on the gas service via a gas gate box. Any gas company that must excavate or use other means to  
11 relocate or make it accessible a gas shutoff may apply for funds under this chapter to pay for said  
12 excavation or relocation work. Any chapter 90 funded construction contract to repair streets; roads and  
13 sidewalks must include the maintenance and improvement of all gas gate boxes.