

**An Initiative Petition for a Law to Guarantee Analog Utility Meter Availability and Informed
Consent for Wireless Metering**

Be it enacted by the People, and by their authority:

An Initiative Petition for a Law to Guarantee Analog Utility Meter Availability and Informed
Consent for Wireless Metering

SECTION 1. Chapter 164 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is
hereby amended by inserting after section 116B the following section:

Section 116C. Utility Metering Standards and Consent Requirements.

(a) As used in this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(1) “Electromechanical analog meter” shall mean a mechanical and electrical utility metering
device that contains no wireless components, radiofrequency transmitters, switch-mode power
supplies, antennas, or electronic displays. Such meters shall comply with ANSI utility metering
standards.

(2) “Wireless meter” shall mean any metering device capable of transmitting or receiving usage
data via wireless signals, including but not limited to AMI, AMR, ERT, smart meters, or
metering technologies deployed under a Comprehensive Advanced Metering Plan.

(3) “Equivalent technology” shall mean any infrastructure, device, or component used to transmit
or receive utility usage data wirelessly, whether embedded in the meter or deployed externally,
including pole-mounted antennas, relay devices, or mesh routers.

(4) “Utility company” shall mean any electric, gas, or water distribution company regulated
under this chapter, including municipal lighting plants and publicly owned utilities.

(b) Metering options.

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Initials:

1. EDS 2. ADF 3. LLC 4. RAR 5. JAF 6. KAMB 7. GM 8. CLW 9. DAW
10. SL 11. BAM 12. SAW 13. LY 14. ULC 15. [Signature] 16. Lo 17. SLL
18. [Signature] 19. _____ 20. _____

(1) Each utility customer shall be offered the following options:

(i) To retain any electromechanical analog meter currently in use, without fee or equipment charge;

(ii) To request removal of any wireless meter or equivalent technology device installed on the premises and installation of an electromechanical analog meter at no cost;

(iii) To request the installation of an electromechanical analog meter at the initiation of service, in lieu of a wireless meter.

(2) Utility companies shall maintain records of the type of meter installed at each customer location and shall provide this information to the customer upon request.

(3) If electromechanical analog meters are not available in active inventory, the utility company shall procure compliant meters and complete installation within 60 days of receiving a written request from the customer.

(c) Consent and disclosure.

(1) No utility company shall install or activate a wireless meter or equivalent technology on any premises without first obtaining the affirmative written consent of the customer.

(2) Within 90 days of the effective date of this section, each utility company shall notify all customers in writing:

(i) Whether the meter currently installed at the customer's premises is a wireless meter or includes equivalent technology;

(ii) That the customer may request, at no cost, removal of the meter and installation of a compliant electromechanical analog meter;

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- (iii) That no provision of state or federal law requires the use or installation of wireless meters;
- (iv) That utility service shall not be denied, altered, or conditioned upon acceptance of a wireless meter.

(3) The written notification required by paragraph (2) shall include the following statement in bold, minimum twelve-point font:

“Massachusetts utility customers may request installation or retention of a non-wireless analog meter. No fees, penalties, or changes in service may be imposed based on this request.”

(d) Prohibited practices.

(1) No utility company shall:

- (i) Impose any fee, surcharge, rate increase, or penalty based on a customer’s request for an electromechanical analog meter or refusal of wireless metering;
 - (ii) Disconnect, suspend, or degrade service based on a customer’s metering preference;
 - (iii) Condition provision of service on the use of wireless meters or remote reading technologies;
 - (iv) Refuse accommodations or impose burdens on customers who provide documentation of medical conditions, safety concerns, or other objections to wireless metering;
 - (v) Install or activate equivalent wireless technology on or near the premises of a customer who has not provided affirmative consent, including on utility poles, transformers, or exterior infrastructure adjacent to the property.
- (e) The department shall promulgate rules and regulations as necessary to implement this section.

SECTION 5. Implementation Appropriations Limitation.

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The department shall promulgate regulations to implement this act, including standards for verifying affirmative written election and procedures to prevent bundling, misrepresentation, or default enrollment. Nothing in this act shall be construed to require the department to undertake any duty, obligation, or enforcement action for which sufficient funding has not already been appropriated. All such duties shall be carried out only to the extent that existing appropriations to the department permit, and no provision of this act shall be construed to require a new, additional, or specific appropriation.

SECTION 6. Severability.

If any section or provision of this act is found to be invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions, which shall remain in full force and effect and be construed to fulfill the primary purposes of ensuring affordability and transparency in utility billing through informed, affirmative ratepayer consent.

SECTION 7. Effective Date.

This act shall take effect on the later of January 1, 2027, or as provided in Article 48 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution, as amended.

Signatures begin on the next page.





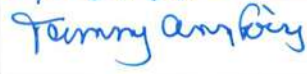
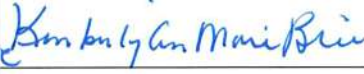





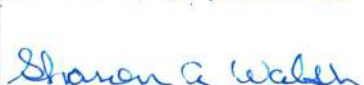
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18. [Signature] 19. _____ 20. _____

The undersigned qualified voters of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts have personally reviewed the final text of this initiative petition, fully subscribe to its contents, agree to be one of its original signers and have signaled that agreement by initialing each page and signing the last, and hereby submit the measure for approval by the people pursuant to Article 48 of the articles of amendment of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as amended by Article 74 of said articles of amendment.

Name	Signature	Address	Date
Eliseu DeSousa		48 Davis Street New Bedford, MA 02746	8/5/25
Amanda Davila Flores		117 Hart St. #5 Taunton, MA 02780	8/6/25
Lorie Lee Carpenter		30 Johnson St Taunton, MA 02780	8/6/25
Robin Ann Rheame		536 Division Rd. Dartmouth, MA	8/6/25
Tammy Ann Foisy		416 Chancery St New Bedford, MA 02740	8/6/25
Kimberly Ann Marie Bri		119 Carnegie Street Dartmouth, MA 02747	8/6/25
Christina J. McMullen		374 Sharps Lot Rd. Swansea, MA 02777	8/6/25
Carolyn Linda Wade		80 Willis Street New Bedford, MA 02740	8/4/25
David Richard Wade		80 Willis Street New Bedford, MA 02740	8/6/25
Shelley Ann Robidoux		24 Park Road Plymouth, MA 02360	8/6/25
Beth Ann McCormick		171 Sibley St. Dennis Port, MA 02639	8/6/25
Sharon A Walsh		54 Hishia Avenue Haiti, MA 02338	8/6/25

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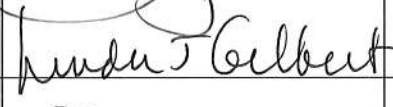
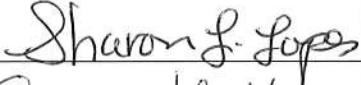
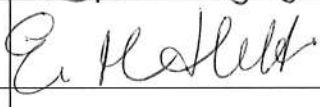
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Name	Signature	Address	Date
Rhonda Gonsalves		25 OASIS Way. Plymouth, MA 02360	8/6/25
William L. Gibelli		54 Spencer Dr Plymouth, MA 02360	8/6/25
Lisa Potter		38 Lakeview Pl. Taunton MA	8/6/25
Linda J. Gilbert		703 Somerset Ave. Taunton, MA 02780	08/06/25
Sharon L. Lopes		433 Richmond St East Taunton	8/6/25
Erin M. Hellmuth		214 Edge Hill Road Milton, MA 02186	8/6/25

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