

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE BILL 2870

An Act Relative to Protecting Consumers of Gas and Electricity from paying for Leaked and Unaccounted for Gas

WHEREAS: Massachusetts House Bill 2870 is an “An Act Relative to Protecting Consumers of Gas and Electricity from paying for Leaked and Unaccounted for Gas (UFG)” which seeks to protect all gas and electricity customers, whether businesses, manufacturers, homeowners and municipalities or other gas users, from paying for UFG by prohibiting providers from including the cost of UFG, as well as the costs of reducing or remedying loss in the rate base; and

WHEREAS: According to H. 2870, “Unaccounted for gas or UFG is the difference between the total gas available from all sources that is acquired by a system type and the total gas accounted for as sales, net interchange or company use”; and

WHEREAS: H. 2870 covers leakage or loss by leakage or loss due to discrepancies from measuring or monitoring inaccuracies, variations of temperature or pressure, or both, and other circumstances; and

WHEREAS: The cost of UFG is typically passed on from providers of natural gas to users or consumers of gas; and

WHEREAS: Leaking gas in the ground is harmful to vegetation and can kill valuable shade trees by depriving roots of oxygen; and

WHEREAS: Methane is a precursor to ozone formation that can decrease lung function and aggravate asthma; and

WHEREAS: H. 2870 will provide economic incentive to gas providers to develop improved technologies and practices for transportation, distribution and storage;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Members of the Board of Selectmen, strongly support House Bill 2870 and urge the Massachusetts Legislature to take action to support this measure to protect consumers and the environment.

<u>Kevin F. Greeley</u>	SELECTMEN
<u>Deane M. Malon</u>	OF THE
<u>[Signature]</u>	TOWN
<u>Joseph A. [Signature]</u>	OF
<u>[Signature]</u>	ARLINGTON

A true record.

ATTEST:

By: Marie A. Kiepelka
Board Administrator