

SENATE No. 174

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Patrick M. O'Connor

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act prohibiting certain termination and cancellation fees.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Patrick M. O'Connor

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Plymouth and Norfolk

SENATE No. 174

By Mr. O'Connor, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 174) of Patrick M. O'Connor for legislation to prohibit certain termination and cancellation fees. Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act prohibiting certain termination and cancellation fees.

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 25C of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof the following new section:-

3 Section 9. (a) Subject to federal law and regulation, no provider of telephone, cellular
4 telephone, television, internet, energy, or water services shall impose a fee for termination or
5 early cancellation of a service contract in the event the customer has deceased before the end of
6 such contract.

7 (b) Every violation of this section shall be punishable by a civil penalty not to exceed one
8 thousand dollars.

9 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect immediately upon its passage.