

**THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE**  
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

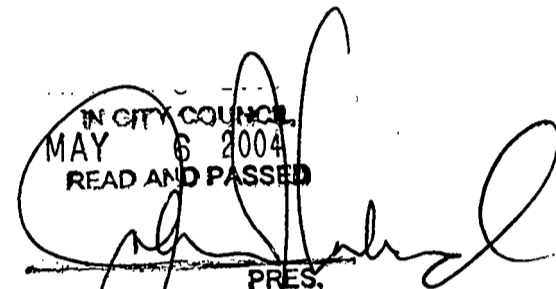
# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

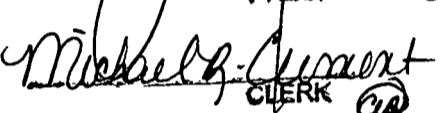
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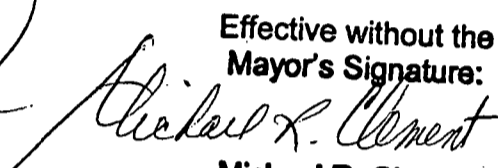
EFFECTIVE ~~XXXXXX~~ **Approved** May 16, 2004

RESOLVED, That the Members of the Providence City Council hereby Endorse and Urge Passage by the General Assembly of House Bill 2004-H 7918, Relative to Criminal Offenses – Public Utilities.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
MAY 6 2004  
READ AND PASSED

  
PRES.

  
CLERK

Effective without the  
Mayor's Signature:  
  
Michael R. Clement  
City Clerk

IN CITY COUNCIL  
APR 1 2004  
FIRST READING  
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON  
STATE LEGISLATION

Michael R. Christ CLERK

THE COMMITTEE ON  
STATE LEGISLATION  
Recommends Approval

Craig E. Best  
April 21, 2004 CLERK

Councilman Mancini and Councilman Medina (By Request)

LC02234

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2004

A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- PUBLIC UTILITIES

Introduced By: Representatives Slater, Williams, Fox, Costantino, and Almeida

Date Introduced: February 12, 2004

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Sections 11-35-6 and 11-35-7 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-35  
2   entitled "Public Utilities" are hereby amended to read as follows:  
3           11-35-6. ~~Interference with gas or electric or water meters.~~ Interference with gas or  
4   electric or water meters or fire hydrants. -- Every person who shall willfully or fraudulently  
5   injure or shall knowingly suffer to be injured any wire, meter, pipe, or fittings or fire hydrants  
6   connected with or belonging to any electric company or gaslight company or connected with or  
7   belonging to the waterworks of any corporation in this state supplying water at a stipulated rate of  
8   payment, or shall willfully tamper or meddle with any other of the appliances or appurtenances  
9   including fire hydrants connected with or belonging to any electric company or gaslight company  
10   or to the waterworks of a corporation in a manner as to cause loss or damage to the company or  
11   corporation, or who shall willfully or fraudulently prevent any meter used for registering the  
12   quantity of electricity, gas, or water supplied through it from duly registering the quantity so  
13   passing through it, or alter the index of any meter or in any way hinder or interfere with its proper  
14   action or just registration, or shall fraudulently use the electricity or fraudulently burn the gas of  
15   the company or fraudulently use the water passing through the wire, meter, pipe, fittings, or other  
16   of the appliances or appurtenances connected with or belonging to the electric company or gas  
17   company or to the waterworks of the corporation, or willfully waste electricity, gas, or water,  
18   shall be deemed guilty of a ~~misdemeanor~~ felony and shall be imprisoned not exceeding ~~one year~~  
19   two (2) years or be fined not exceeding ~~one thousand dollars (\$1,000)~~ five thousand dollars.

1    (\$5,000). In any prosecution under this section proof that any wire, meter, pipe, or fittings or fire  
2    hydrants have been injured, or that any meter has been prevented from duly registering the  
3    quantity of electricity, gas, or water supplied through it, while on the premises occupied by the  
4    defendant, shall be prima facie evidence that the defendant caused the injury or prevented the  
5    meter from duly registering the quantity of electricity, gas, or water supplied through it, willfully  
6    and fraudulently and with intent to injure or defraud.

7            **11-35-7. Bypassing meters -- Use of electricity, gas or water with intent to defraud. -**

8    - Every person who, with intent to injure or defraud any gaslight company or any electric  
9    company, or corporation supplying water in this state at a stipulated rate of payment, shall make  
10   or cause to be made any wire, pipe, tube, or other instrument or contrivance, and connect it or  
11   cause it to be connected with any main, service pipe, or other pipe, appliance, or appurtenance  
12   used for or in connection with the works or apparatus employed for conducting or supplying  
13   electricity, illuminating gas, or water, in any manner that is calculated to supply electricity, gas,  
14   or water to any burner, orifice, faucet, or other outlet whatsoever, without the electricity, gas, or  
15   water passing through a meter provided or used for measuring or registering its quantity so  
16   passing through, or without the consent of the company or corporation to the connections, or who  
17   shall otherwise use any electricity, gas, or water with the intent to defraud the company or  
18   corporation of payment, shall be deemed guilty of a ~~misdemeanor~~ felony and shall be imprisoned  
19   not exceeding ~~one year~~ two (2) years or be fined not exceeding ~~one thousand dollars (\$1,000)~~  
20   five thousand dollars (\$5,000). In any prosecution under this section, proof that any of the acts  
21   specified in this section were done on or about the premises occupied by the defendant, or proof  
22   of the presence on or about the premises, of any device which affects the diversion of electricity,  
23   gas, or water without it being measured or registered by the meter provided, shall be prima facie  
24   evidence that the defendant committed the acts, or aided or abetted in their commission,  
25   maliciously and with intent to injure or defraud.

26            SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

LC02234

EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
AN ACT  
RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- PUBLIC UTILITIES

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- 1           This act would change the penalty for interfering with or bypassing certain utility meters
- 2   and fire hydrants from a misdemeanor to a felony.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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LC02234  
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ROBERT A. WALSH, JR.  
*Chairman*

JOEL D. LANDRY, II  
*Vice Chairman*

ALEXANDER D. PRIGNANO  
*Ex-Officio*

CARISSA R. RICHARD  
*Secretary*

FERNANDO S. CUNHA, ESQ.  
*Legal Advisor*



DAVID N. CICILLINE  
*Mayor*

ROBERT J. KILDUFF, P.E., ESQ.  
*Chief Engineer & General Manager*

JOSEPH DE LUCA  
*City Councilman*

PETER S. MANCINI  
*City Councilman*

JOSEPH D. CATALDI  
*Member*

ANNE T. QUINTERNO  
*Member*

## RESOLUTION OF THE PROVIDENCE WATER SUPPLY BOARD

WHEREAS, the City of Providence Water Supply Board is an agency of the City of Providence, Rhode Island and owns and operates a water supply system; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed and discussed the proposed legislation 2004 - H 7918 entitled "An Act Relating to Criminal Offenses - Public Utilities," which was introduced in the State of Rhode Island General Assembly on February 12, 2004 and referred to the House Committee on Judiciary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Board voted to authorize the Chief Engineer and General Manager to send written confirmation to House Majority Leader Gordon Fox regarding the support of the Providence Water Supply Board in the passage of 2004 - H 7918.
2. This resolution shall take effect upon passage.

Approved at a meeting of the City of Providence Water Supply Board, as held on February 18, 2004 by unanimous vote of the members of the Providence Water Supply Board present.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert A. Walsh, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Robert A. Walsh, Jr., Chairman  
Providence Water Supply Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carissa R. Richard", written over a horizontal line.

Carissa R. Richard, Secretary  
Providence Water Supply Board

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