



SMART GROWTH AND REGIONAL COLLABORATION

## FACT SHEET: AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE TRANSPARENCY OF MUNICIPAL ENERGY DATA

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Sponsored by Senator Jason Lewis (SD.197) and Representative Paul Brodeur (HD.3043)

### PURPOSE OF THIS BILL

As cities and towns across Massachusetts examine ways to reduce their energy consumption, it has become increasingly important for them to have access to accurate and timely energy usage data from utilities. Having access to this data allows municipalities to begin setting community-wide usage reduction goals based on real numbers and provides a baseline to which future usage can be compared. While utilities have provided this data on a case-by-case basis in the past, the process for gaining access to the data has often been confusing, time-intensive, and unpredictable. Creating a clear, simple, predictable system that allows municipalities to request this information and receive it in a consistent manner and a timely fashion would be beneficial to municipalities across Massachusetts.

### WHAT THIS LEGISLATION DOES

- Allows municipal officials to request, in writing, aggregate-level annual energy usage for their municipality from the previous five (5) years; anonymized household energy usage data at the zip code and census tract levels from the previous five (5) years; and 15-minute peak demand data from the previous one (1) year.
- Requires utilities regulated by DPU to acknowledge receipt of these requests within five (5) business days and provide the requested data within twenty-one (21) business days.
- Allows DPU to adopt the necessary rules and regulations for how a municipality must request this data and what information utilities need to provide.

**CONTACT:** For more information, please contact Lizzi Weyant at the Metropolitan Area Planning Council at 617-933-0703, or [eweyant@mapc.org](mailto:eweyant@mapc.org).