

October 1, 2015

412 Massachusetts Ave.
Somerset, MA 02726

Representative Thomas Golden, Chairman
Joint Committee on Telecommunications,
Utilities and Energy
Room 473B, State House
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairman Golden:

I am writing in support of *H2881 An Act to promote energy diversity*; of which Representative Patricia A. Haddad is the lead sponsor.

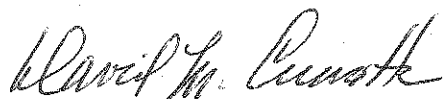
Massachusetts has been at the end of the energy pipeline and paying high transmission costs long enough. Natural gas shortages in winter cause spikes in the price of electricity which many can't afford, especially senior citizens on fixed incomes. The impending closure of several power plants, one right in Somerset, mean the whole region will soon face an energy shortage.

We have an opportunity to change this. *An Act to promote energy diversity* will establish a new offshore wind industry that would generate electricity off our coast, dramatically reducing transmission costs. Since these wind towers will not interfere with shipping and not be an aesthetic concern, their value will be in bringing more gas into the region and allow for importation of a minimal amount of big hydro power to diversify our energy portfolio.

I believe this bill is important to our energy future and to our present economy. By establishing a new industry here in Massachusetts we can grow needed jobs and raise local revenues along the South Coast. A competing proposal that calls for twice as much big hydro- electricity would send these jobs to Canada while increasing transmission costs.

We have a unique chance to take control of our energy future and grow our economy. I urge you to pass *An Act to promote energy diversity* and put the South Coast back to work.

Sincerely;



David M. Cucinotta, Ed.D.
Retired