

**CITY OF SOMERVILLE**  
**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN ACT TO ENSURE GAS SAFETY AND**  
**CONSUMER FAIRNESS [HOUSE H. 2848](#)**

*WHEREAS:* gas leaks in the state have not been significantly reduced since passage of [Ch. 149, Acts of 2014, An Act Relative To Natural Gas Leaks](#), and ratepayers still pay for lost gas; and

*WHEREAS:* it is essential that we keep our communities safe and protect property; and

*WHEREAS:* recent events have demonstrated the safety risks of gas infrastructure; and

*WHEREAS:* Massachusetts [House H. 2848](#): “An Act to Ensure Gas Safety and Consumer Protection” will protect ratepayers from the cost of any lost and unaccounted for gas; and

*WHEREAS:* allows a municipality or person whose property has been damaged by a gas company to submit a claim for such damages; and

*WHEREAS:* demands that a gas company notify the fire department and chief law enforcement officer in each city or town where a Grade 3 leak is identified within an hour of detection of such leak; and

*WHEREAS:* demands that a gas company survey pipelines in every school zone at least once every 12 months or during the next scheduled survey, whichever is sooner; and

*WHEREAS:* will expedite the intervention of the public utilities to address and repair leak to improve consumer safety as well prevent damage to properties, including trees; and will improve coordination of work and sharing of critical information between public utilities, the Department of Public Utilities and municipalities;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT**

*RESOLVED:* that the Somerville City Council, as duly elected representatives, strongly support [House H. 2848](#) to protect consumers; **AND BE IT FURTHER**

*RESOLVED:* that the Somerville City Clerk forward a copy of this resolution to the elected delegation of Representatives and Senators in the State Legislature for Somerville, well as House Speaker Robert A. DeLeo, Senate President Karen E. Spilka and Governor Baker.

Somerville City Council

By \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_