

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1399**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Susan Williams Gifford*

*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 creating a commission to study the definition of affordable housing.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>	<i>2/1/2021</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>	<i>2/18/2021</i>
<i>Brian W. Murray</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>	<i>2/22/2021</i>
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Norman J. Orrall</i>	<i>12th Bristol</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>	<i>4/8/2021</i>

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By Ms. Gifford of Wareham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1399) of Susan Williams Gifford and others for legislation to establish a special commission (including members of the General Court) to study the definition of affordable housing. Housing.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1273 OF 2019-2020.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act creating a commission to study the definition of affordable housing.

*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. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, there is  
2 hereby established a special commission to review the definition of low or moderate income  
3 housing, as currently defined in section 20 of chapter 40B of the General Laws. The commission  
4 shall, but not be limited to, evaluating the effects of including mobile homes and group homes,  
5 manufactured homes, in-law apartments and any first time home buyers participating in any state  
6 or federal assistance program in said definition.

7           (b) The commission shall consist of 8 members: 2 members of the senate, one to be  
8 appointed by the senate president and one to be appointed by the minority leader; 2 members of  
9 the house of representatives, one to be appointed by the speaker and one to be appointed by the  
10 minority leader; the secretary of housing and economic development, or a designee; the

11 undersecretary of the department of housing and community development, or a designee; a  
12 representative from the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Association of Housing &  
13 Redevelopment Officials; and a representative from MassHousing.

14 (c) The commission shall submit its report and findings, along with any legislative  
15 recommendations, to the joint committee on housing and the clerks of the senate and the house  
16 of representatives no later than six months following passage of this act.