

HOUSE No. 3564

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Dylan Fernandes and Julian Cyr

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 relative to Massachusetts participation in the Paris Climate Agreement's Green House Gas Emission Standards.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Dylan Fernandes</i>	<i>Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>
<i>Solomon Goldstein-Rose</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>

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By Representative Fernandes of Falmouth and Senator Cyr, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3564) of Dylan Fernandes and others that the Department of Environmental Protection be authorized to meet or exceed the international guidelines set forth in the 2015 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Paris Agreement. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act relative to Massachusetts participation in the Paris Climate Agreement's Green House Gas Emission Standards.

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. The General Court hereby finds and declares that the commonwealth
2 recognizes the importance of international cooperation in addressing climate change, which is a
3 common concern of humankind, and the importance of the global initiative to provide an up-to-
4 date, transparent global picture of efforts to tackle climate change from state and regional
5 governments.

6 SECTION 2. Section 1 of chapter 21N of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014
7 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the definition of “Market-based
8 compliance mechanism” the following 3 definitions:-

9 “Non-Party stakeholder”, shall include civil society, the private sector, financial
10 institutions, cities and other subnational authorities.

11 “Non-state Actor Zone for Climate Action” or “NAZCA”, the online CO2 emission data
12 gathering tool developed by the United Nations with the governments of France and Peru for
13 COP21.

14 “Paris Agreement”, the 2015 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

15 SECTION 3. Section 2 of said chapter 21N, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
16 adding the following subsection:-

17 (d) The department shall, as appropriate: (i) adopt rules and regulations that support
18 efforts and actions to reduce emissions or to build resilience and decrease vulnerability to the
19 adverse effects of climate change, (ii) ensure that such actions and efforts meet or exceed the
20 international guidelines set forth in the Paris Agreement, and (iii) document such efforts as a
21 non-party stakeholder with the NAZCA platform.

22 SECTION 4. Section 5 of said chapter 21N, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
23 adding the following paragraph:-

24 The department shall also publish a biennial disclosure report of progress on climate
25 change mitigation efforts in the commonwealth, and shall publish these findings in a method
26 consistent with the NAZCA platform.

27 SECTION 5. Section 6 of said chapter 21N, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
28 adding the following paragraph:-

29 In promulgating regulations to implement its plan for climate change mitigation, the
30 department shall strive to meet or exceed the standards adopted by the United Nations.