

HOUSE No. 3615

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

William N. Brownsberger

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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act incorporating the Commonwealth's sustainable development principles into the policies of executive and quasi-public agencies.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
William N. Brownsberger	24th Middlesex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT INCORPORATING THE COMMONWEALTH'S SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES INTO THE POLICIES OF EXECUTIVE AND QUASI-PUBLIC AGENCIES.

Whereas, The deferred operation for this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is forthwith to make to encourage the coordination and cooperation of all agencies, invest public funds wisely in smart growth and equitable development, and give priority to investments that will deliver good jobs and good wages, transit access, housing and open space,, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

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. As used in this section the following words shall have the following meaning
2 unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

3 “Executive Agencies” shall include, without limitation, all agencies within the Executive branch of the
4 Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

5 “Independent Agencies,” shall include, without limitation: the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority; the
6 Massachusetts Water Resources Authority; the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative; the
7 Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority; the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority; the
8 Massachusetts Development Finance Agency; the Massachusetts Health and Educational Facilities
9 Authority; the Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency; the Massachusetts Housing Partnership Fund; the
10 Massachusetts Port Authority, and the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

11 “Sustainable Development Principles” shall mean the following principles adopted by the Commonwealth
12 of Massachusetts: concentrate development and mix uses; advance equity; make efficient decisions;
13 protect land and ecosystems; use natural resources wisely; expand housing opportunities; provide
14 transportation choice; increase job and business opportunities; promote clean energy; and plan regionally.

15 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any language to the contrary, the enabling statutes of Executive Agencies
16 and Independent Agencies are hereby amended to include the following language:

17 In carrying out its duties, including establishing priorities for capital expenditures, developing new
18 funding programs, expanding geographic boundaries, or adopting program regulations or guidelines, the
19 agency shall take all feasible steps to conform with the Commonwealth's Sustainable Development
20 Principles.