

HOUSE No. 870

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul A. Schmid, III

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 buffer zones on land under the agricultural restriction program.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Paul A. Schmid, III</i> | <i>8th Bristol</i> |
| <i>David F. DeCoste</i> | <i>5th Plymouth</i> |
| <i>Carole A. Fiola</i> | <i>6th Bristol</i> |
| <i>James K. Hawkins</i> | <i>2nd Bristol</i> |
| <i>Norman J. Orrall</i> | <i>12th Bristol</i> |

HOUSE No. 870

By Mr. Schmid of Westport, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 870) of Paul A. Schmid, III and others for legislation to authorize storm water mitigation infrastructure on certain parcels of land under the agricultural preservation restriction program . Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act relative to buffer zones on land under the agricultural restriction program.

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. Section 23 of Chapter 20 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016
2 official edition, is hereby amended by inserting the following after section (b):-

3 (c)Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the department of
4 agricultural resources, with the approval of the co-holder, if any, in its sole discretion, may allow
5 for storm water mitigation or nitrogen mitigation purposes, in nitrogen sensitive embayment
6 watersheds, uncultivated, planted or other storm water mitigation infrastructure within 200 feet
7 of any resource area in any parcel that has been accepted into the Massachusetts Agricultural
8 Preservation Restriction program.