

SENATE No. 1532

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Linda Dorcena Forry

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 to promote urban agriculture and horticulture.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Linda Dorcena Forry</i>	<i>First Suffolk</i>	
<i>Thomas M. McGee</i>	<i>Third Essex</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Brendan P. Crighton</i>	<i>11th Essex</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Lori A. Ehrlich</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Barbara A. L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Eileen M. Donoghue</i>	<i>First Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Daniel Cullinane</i>	<i>12th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Rady Mom</i>	<i>18th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>

SENATE No. 1532

By Ms. Forry, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1532) of Linda Dorcena Forry, Thomas M. McGee, Jason M. Lewis, Marjorie C. Decker and other members of the General Court for legislation to promote urban agriculture and horticulture. Revenue.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to promote urban agriculture and horticulture.

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 5 of Chapter 59 of the General Laws of Massachusetts, as appearing
2 in Section 123 of Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016, is hereby amended by inserting at the end
3 thereof the following clause:-

4 Fifty-ninth. Up to 100% of the assessed value of real estate in agricultural or horticultural
5 use, as those terms are defined in Sections 1 and 2 of Chapter 61A, provided that the real estate
6 or portion thereof in agricultural or horticultural use is more than a tenth of an acre, but less than
7 two acres in area. The exemption provided in this clause shall apply only to the portion of real
8 estate in agricultural or horticultural use. Any part of any such real estate that is used for other
9 than agricultural or horticultural uses, shall not be exempt under this clause. This clause shall
10 take effect in any city or town with a population of 50,000 inhabitants or more upon acceptance
11 by such city or town. The legislative body of any city or town that accepts this clause shall
12 establish and may thereafter modify the percentage of the assessed value exempt from taxation.