

SENATE No. 469

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Patrick M. O'Connor

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 the positioning of compressor stations.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	
<i>Richard J. Ross</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>	<i>1/25/2017</i>
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/25/2017</i>
<i>Barbara A. L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>1/25/2017</i>
<i>Sheila C. Harrington</i>	<i>1st Middlesex</i>	<i>1/26/2017</i>
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>John F. Keenan</i>	<i>Norfolk and Plymouth</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>James M. Murphy</i>	<i>4th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Bruce J. Ayers</i>	<i>1st Norfolk</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>

SENATE No. 469

By Mr. O'Connor, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 469) of Patrick M. O'Connor, Richard J. Ross, Josh S. Cutler, Barbara A. L'Italien and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to the positioning of compressor stations. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to the positioning of compressor stations.

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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, no new natural
2 gas compressor stations shall be located in an area which is less than 0.5 miles in linear distance
3 from: (i) a playground;(ii) a licensed day care center; (iii) a school; (iv) a church; (v) an
4 environmental justice population neighborhood; (vi) an area of critical environmental concern as
5 determined by the secretary of environmental affairs under 301 CMR 12.00; (vii) a waterway
6 preserved and protected for water-dependent uses under chapter 91; or (viii) an area occupied by
7 residential housing. Linear distance shall be measured from any point along a natural gas
8 compressor station to the outermost point of buildings or areas in clauses (i) to (viii), inclusive;
9 provided, however, that repairs or replacements that do not increase the capacity of a natural gas
10 compressor station in operation prior to January 1, 2018, shall not be subject to this section. For
11 the purposes of this section, “environmental justice population neighborhood” shall mean a
12 neighborhood with an annual median household income of not more than 65 per cent of the

13 statewide median income or with a segment of the population that consists of residents that is not
14 less than 25 per cent minority, foreign born or lacking in English language proficiency based on
15 the most recent United States census.