

HOUSE No. 3822

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Kristin E. Kassner

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 preparing Massachusetts for the next economy.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Kristin E. Kassner</i>	<i>2nd Essex</i>	<i>2/28/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 3822

By Representative Kassner of Hamilton, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Kristin E. Kassner for an investigation by a special commission relative to the preparation of the built environment for the next economy, including an inventory of infrastructure, buildings, and land use regulations. Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act preparing Massachusetts for the next economy.

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. (a) There shall be established a special commission on preparing the built
2 environment for the next economy, including an inventory of infrastructure, buildings, and land
3 use regulations. The goal of this special commission is to link government, utilities, business,
4 and educational postgraduate institutions in the commonwealth to create a realistic plan to
5 strengthen the economy, provide housing, and opportunities for emerging technologies while
6 protecting our environment and open space.

7 (b) The Massachusetts: NEXT special commission shall consist of the Secretaries of the
8 Executive Office of Housing and the Executive Office of Economic Development or their
9 designees; one member from each regional planning commission; one member from the
10 Massachusetts Municipal Association; one member from each regional water authority; one
11 member appointed by the Speaker of the Massachusetts House; and one member appointed by
12 the Massachusetts Senate President. The special commission shall also include a minimum of

13 four (4) institutional partners, including University of Massachusetts, and additional universities
14 selected by the Speaker and Senate President. The special commission shall meet at least
15 monthly. The special commission shall be staffed by a director appointed by the Secretaries.

16 (c) The special commission shall collect data regarding the availability of water,
17 wastewater, electricity, transportation access, and proximity to food and medical resources, local
18 land use regulations, the existing built environment, and local limitations to diversity in the
19 economy.

20 (d) The special commission shall hold at least one public hearing and may hold additional
21 hearings as necessary at which members of the public shall have an opportunity to speak.

22 (d) Not later than June 30, 2024, the special commission shall file a report on its findings,
23 including recommendations to implement said findings, with the clerks of the House and Senate,
24 the Secretaries of Housing and Economic Development, and the House and Senate committees
25 on Ways and Means. The report shall include an inventory of current land use and natural
26 resources; housing and business needs, infrastructure, land use regulations, and
27 recommendations to balance preservation and growth opportunities for housing, economic
28 development and associated infrastructure.