

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 898**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Carolyn C. Dykema***

*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 maintaining adequate water supplies through effective drought management.

PETITION OF:

| NAME:                           | DISTRICT/ADDRESS:     | DATE ADDED:      |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| <i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>        | <i>8th Middlesex</i>  | <i>2/5/2021</i>  |
| <i>Jessica Ann Giannino</i>     | <i>16th Suffolk</i>   | <i>2/16/2021</i> |
| <i>Marcos A. Devers</i>         | <i>16th Essex</i>     | <i>2/16/2021</i> |
| <i>Steven C. Owens</i>          | <i>29th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/16/2021</i> |
| <i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>      | <i>1st Hampshire</i>  | <i>2/17/2021</i> |
| <i>Peter Capano</i>             | <i>11th Essex</i>     | <i>2/17/2021</i> |
| <i>Diana DiZoglio</i>           | <i>First Essex</i>    | <i>2/18/2021</i> |
| <i>Hannah Kane</i>              | <i>11th Worcester</i> | <i>2/18/2021</i> |
| <i>Linda Dean Campbell</i>      | <i>15th Essex</i>     | <i>2/18/2021</i> |
| <i>Michelle L. Ciccolo</i>      | <i>15th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/18/2021</i> |
| <i>Kay Khan</i>                 | <i>11th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/18/2021</i> |
| <i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i> | <i>13th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/18/2021</i> |
| <i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>    | <i>20th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/18/2021</i> |
| <i>Richard M. Haggerty</i>      | <i>30th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/19/2021</i> |
| <i>Mary S. Keefe</i>            | <i>15th Worcester</i> | <i>2/19/2021</i> |
| <i>Brian W. Murray</i>          | <i>10th Worcester</i> | <i>2/19/2021</i> |
| <i>Christine P. Barber</i>      | <i>34th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/22/2021</i> |
| <i>Tami L. Gouveia</i>          | <i>14th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/22/2021</i> |

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|------------------------------|--|------------------|
| <i>Paul A. Schmid, III</i>   | <i>8th Bristol</i>                       | <i>2/25/2021</i> |
| <i>Michael J. Barrett</i>    | <i>Third Middlesex</i>                   | <i>2/25/2021</i> |
| <i>William C. Galvin</i>     | <i>6th Norfolk</i>                       | <i>2/25/2021</i> |
| <i>Tommy Vitolo</i>          | <i>15th Norfolk</i>                      | <i>2/25/2021</i> |
| <i>James K. Hawkins</i>      | <i>2nd Bristol</i>                       | <i>2/26/2021</i> |
| <i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>    | <i>4th Worcester</i>                     | <i>2/26/2021</i> |
| <i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>   | <i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i> | <i>3/11/2021</i> |
| <i>Daniel J. Ryan</i>        | <i>2nd Suffolk</i>                       | <i>3/11/2021</i> |
| <i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>  | <i>1st Worcester</i>                     | <i>3/16/2021</i> |
| <i>Michael D. Brady</i>      | <i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>       | <i>3/16/2021</i> |
| <i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>        | <i>18th Essex</i>                        | <i>3/18/2021</i> |
| <i>Mike Connolly</i>         | <i>26th Middlesex</i>                    | <i>3/18/2021</i> |
| <i>Edward R. Philips</i>     | <i>8th Norfolk</i>                       | <i>3/18/2021</i> |
| <i>David M. Rogers</i>       | <i>24th Middlesex</i>                    | <i>3/18/2021</i> |
| <i>Jon Santiago</i>          | <i>9th Suffolk</i>                       | <i>3/18/2021</i> |
| <i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>    | <i>7th Middlesex</i>                     | <i>3/19/2021</i> |
| <i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i> | <i>3rd Berkshire</i>                     | <i>3/19/2021</i> |
| <i>Jay D. Livingstone</i>    | <i>8th Suffolk</i>                       | <i>3/19/2021</i> |
| <i>Paul McMurtry</i>         | <i>11th Norfolk</i>                      | <i>3/22/2021</i> |
| <i>Dylan A. Fernandes</i>    | <i>Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket</i>   | <i>3/24/2021</i> |
| <i>Paul F. Tucker</i>        | <i>7th Essex</i>                         | <i>4/5/2021</i>  |
| <i>Tackey Chan</i>           | <i>2nd Norfolk</i>                       | <i>4/5/2021</i>  |
| <i>Maria Duaine Robinson</i> | <i>6th Middlesex</i>                     | <i>4/5/2021</i>  |
| <i>Mindy Domb</i>            | <i>3rd Hampshire</i>                     | <i>4/13/2021</i> |

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 898**

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By Ms. Dykema of Holliston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 898) of Carolyn C. Dykema and others relative to maintaining adequate water supplies through effective drought management. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act relative to maintaining adequate water supplies through effective drought management.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Chapter 21A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, is hereby  
2 amended by inserting after section 2A the following section:-

3 Section 2B. (a) There shall be established within the office the drought management task  
4 force. The secretary and the director of the Massachusetts emergency management agency shall  
5 appoint to the task force officials from state agencies and professional organizations with  
6 responsibility for areas likely to be affected by drought conditions; representatives of agencies  
7 that provide data used to assess drought conditions or that have the ability to respond to drought  
8 conditions; and public health and safety and environmental professionals, and may invite  
9 officials from federal agencies to participate. The secretary and the director shall have joint  
10 responsibility for coordinating the task force. The task force shall meet at least quarterly, but it  
11 shall meet at least monthly during drought. The task force shall be staffed by a director appointed  
12 by the secretary.

13 (b) The task force shall assist in collecting and assessing technical information,  
14 facilitating coordination and communication among task force members, agencies and the public,  
15 and provide recommendations to the secretary, the secretary of public safety and security and the  
16 governor on the level of drought and responses thereto. The task force shall also make  
17 recommendations for the end of drought, or reduction of the drought level.

18 (c) The task force shall maintain and periodically update a statewide drought  
19 management plan that addresses preparedness and response to drought conditions and protects  
20 public health, public safety, and the environment. The task force may update the statewide  
21 drought management plan at any time; provided, that the plan shall be updated at least every 5  
22 years.

23 (d) The secretary may order water conservation measures, including limits on  
24 nonessential outdoor water use, based on the severity of drought in drought regions to protect  
25 public health, safety or the environment. Such water conservation measures by the secretary shall  
26 apply uniformly to all water users within a drought region.

27 (e) Notwithstanding section 27C of chapter 29 of the General Laws or any ordinance, by-  
28 law, rule or regulation to the contrary, cities and towns shall enforce, water conservation  
29 restrictions issued by the secretary to the fullest extent permitted by law.