

SENATE No. 147

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Diana DiZoglio

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 support MassMakers.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Diana DiZoglio

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Essex

SENATE No. 147

By Ms. DiZoglio, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 147) of Diana DiZoglio for legislation to support MassMakers. Community Development and Small Businesses.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 2564 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to support MassMakers.

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. This Act may be known as the MassMakers Act. For purposes of this
2 Act, the following terms shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly requires
3 otherwise:

4 “HIRE MASS”, the entrepreneurial and business skills program established pursuant
5 to Section 7 of this Act, designed to provide skills to aspiring entrepreneurs and microbusinesses,
6 as defined in this Act, to start up, scale up, and become the next generation’s employers.

7 “Mass Main Streets”, the office of Massachusetts main streets established pursuant to
8 Section 5 of this Act, for the purpose of protecting, coordinating, promoting, and revitalizing
9 downtowns and commercial districts of the commonwealth’s cities and towns.

10 “MassMade business”, an enterprise which (i) has its principal place of business in the
11 commonwealth; (ii) is in good standing with the department of revenue; (iii) is registered with
12 Supply Mass/Buy Mass, as defined in this Act; and (iv) produces raw materials, including
13 agricultural items, in the commonwealth, or manufactures products or goods in the
14 commonwealth.

15 “MassMakers Portal”, the one-stop shop interactive web portal established pursuant to
16 Section 3 of this Act for prospective and established businesses in the commonwealth, to serve as
17 the single, unified entry point for business information and statutory and regulatory compliance.

18 “Massport Model”, the bidder selection model implemented by the port authority
19 which, in the port authority’s requests for proposals, requires bidders to incorporate diversity and
20 inclusion plans into their bids, such plans to be considered alongside traditional criteria when
21 evaluating bids and given a weight of 25%.

22 “Microbusiness”, an enterprise which has its principal place of business in the
23 commonwealth, is independently owned and operated, and (i) if a manufacturing firm, has 25 or
24 fewer employees, or (ii) if a service, construction or non-manufacturing firm, has 25 or fewer
25 employees and average annual gross receipts over the 3 previous years not exceeding
26 \$3,500,000, indexed for inflation.

27 “Minority business”, an enterprise which has its principal place of business in the
28 commonwealth, is independently owned and operated, and at least 51% of which is owned and
29 dominantly controlled by adult minority principals as defined in 425 CMR 2.02(1), or any
30 successor regulation thereto.

31 “Small business”, a business entity, including its affiliates, that: (i) is independently
32 owned and operated; (ii) has a principal place of business in the commonwealth; and (iii) would
33 be defined as a "small business" under applicable federal law, as established in the United States
34 Code and promulgated from time to time by the United States Small Business Administration.

35 “Supply Mass/Buy Mass”, the program established pursuant to Section 4 of this Act
36 for the purpose of connecting local suppliers with local purchasers.

37 SECTION 2. Section 57 of chapter 7 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
38 adding the following paragraphs:-

39 In order to fulfill the commitment embodied in the foregoing policy, it is not sufficient
40 that the state government see that all available services and programs are put to the best use. The
41 state government has an affirmative duty to advance diversity and equity in all of its own rules,
42 regulations and practices. It is therefore incorporated into the policy of the commonwealth that
43 all agencies of the commonwealth, when procuring supplies or services via requests for
44 proposals from private businesses, include diversity and inclusion plan requirements in all such
45 requests and consider those plans alongside traditional criteria when evaluating bids. The weight
46 given to diversity and inclusion plans when evaluating bids shall be determined by each agency
47 of the commonwealth in collaboration with the executive office of housing and economic
48 development, the executive office of labor and workforce development, the executive office for
49 administration and finance, the commission against discrimination, the supplier diversity office,
50 the vendor advisory team formed by the gaming commission, and the port authority. Agencies
51 may seek guidance from the Massport Model in determining the weight to be given to diversity
52 and inclusion plans when evaluating bids.

53 The secretary of each executive office is hereby authorized to promulgate regulations
54 to assure the timely and effective implementation of this section.

55 SECTION 3. Chapter 9 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
56 section 31 the following section:-

57 Section 32: MassMakers Portal

58 Section 32. (a) There is hereby established a one-stop shop interactive web portal to be
59 known as the MassMakers Portal for prospective and established businesses in the
60 commonwealth. The state secretary, the executive office for administration and finance, the
61 executive offices of education, energy and environmental affairs, health and human services,
62 housing and economic development, labor and workforce development, public safety and
63 security, and technology services and security, and the department of revenue shall jointly
64 develop and implement the MassMakers Portal, which shall serve as a single, unified entry point
65 for prospective and established businesses to obtain local business information and execute all
66 statutory and regulatory compliance tasks required by the commonwealth in connection with the
67 creation, continuing operation, or upscaling of business.

68 (b) In order to develop and implement the MassMakers Portal, the agencies identified
69 in subsection (a) shall assemble a task force which shall consist of the state secretary, ex officio,
70 or a designee, the secretaries of administration and finance, education, energy and environmental
71 affairs, health and human services, housing and economic development, labor and workforce
72 development, public safety and security, and technology services and security, ex officio, or their
73 designees, the commissioner of revenue, ex officio, or a designee; 7 persons appointed by the
74 attorney general, 1 of whom shall be from each of the 7 regions of the commonwealth: the

75 western region, the central region, the northeast region, the Merrimack Valley, the metro west
76 region, the Greater Boston region, and the southeast region; and 7 persons appointed by the
77 governor, 1 of whom shall be from each of the 7 identified regions of the commonwealth. The
78 governor, attorney general, state treasurer, and co-chairs of the task force shall have the
79 discretion to appoint other members to the task force by majority vote. Persons appointed to the
80 task force shall be members or representatives of the business community, including
81 entrepreneurs, microbusiness owners, minority business owners and small business owners,
82 and/or have demonstrated interests and experience in state agency processes, business
83 regulations, web portal design and implementation, and/or other qualifications and experience
84 that the appointing authorities determine are necessary to fulfilling the mission of the task force.
85 Members shall be selected without regard to political affiliation, shall as fully as possible
86 represent a diverse and equitable array of stakeholders, and shall serve without compensation.
87 The state secretary, or a designee from among the members of the task force, and the secretary of
88 housing and economic development, or a designee from among the members of the task force,
89 shall serve as co-chairs.

90 (c) The task force shall perform a needs and cost assessment and may, subject to
91 appropriation and the laws and regulations pertaining to the employment of consultants, employ
92 such consultants as the task force deems necessary to assist in the execution of said assessment.
93 Said assessment shall be completed and the results thereof shall be presented to the governor and
94 the general court by March 1, 2022, to inform the budget of the next legislative annual session.
95 The assessment shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

96 (1) recommendations on the location, design, functionality and scope of services of the
97 MassMakers Portal, which at a minimum shall include:

- 98 (i) online account services through which businesses can monitor deadlines for
99 submission of forms, documents and payments, as well as compliance status and standing with
100 each state agency;
- 101 (ii) electronic applications for licenses and renewals thereof;
- 102 (iii) electronic payment options for fees and taxes incident to the creation, continuing
103 operation or upscaling of business;
- 104 (iv) compliance alerts in connection with new or revised state statutes, regulations and
105 procedures;
- 106 (v) toolkits and video tutorials on all aspects of starting a business in the
107 commonwealth, operating a business, upscaling a business, completing forms and complying
108 with state statutory and regulatory requirements in connection therewith;
- 109 (vi) Supply Mass/Buy Mass information, and coordination with Supply Mass/Buy
110 Mass online services;
- 111 (vii) Mass Main Streets information, and coordination with Mass Main Streets online
112 services;
- 113 (viii) HÛRE MASS information, and coordination with HÛRE MASS online services;
114 and
- 115 (ix) technical assistance resources;

116 (2) an estimate of the costs of full implementation of the MassMakers Portal,
117 including, but not limited to, those associated with technology, infrastructure, operations and
118 maintenance, sharing and coordination of agency data, and security;

119 (3) recommendations for and an estimate of the costs of establishing and maintaining a
120 help center staffed with persons trained to answer questions and assist with navigation of the
121 MassMakers Portal;

122 (4) recommendations on the time-line for designing, developing and testing the
123 MassMakers Portal, which at the latest shall have its first testing phase for the state secretary's
124 office to process new business registrations and associated fee payments by December 31, 2022,
125 and shall have its second testing phase to submit tax payments with the department of revenue by
126 December 31, 2023;

127 (5) recommendations as to the roles of the agencies identified in subsection (a)
128 regarding ongoing operational management of the MassMakers Portal;

129 (6) a comprehensive analysis of the processes of all state agencies with respect to the
130 creation, continued operation or upscaling of businesses located in the commonwealth, with a
131 goal of simplifying and streamlining regulatory tasks and forms required by said agencies and
132 strengthening the delivery of services provided by said agencies to entrepreneurs,
133 microbusinesses, small businesses, and other businesses in the commonwealth;

134 (7) identification of any state statutory, regulatory or procedural changes that need to
135 be made to effectuate the functionality of the MassMakers Portal;

136 (8) identification of existing entrepreneurial, microbusiness, small business, and other
137 business assets, resources, web content and functions provided by state agencies to coordinate
138 and incorporate such assets, resources, web content and functions into the MassMakers Portal;

139 (9) identification of potential impediments to functionality posed by federal law, if any,
140 and recommendations for work-arounds or solutions to such impediments;

141 (10) the impact of prioritizing microbusiness applications and account services; and

142 (11) recommendations on potential incentives to encourage municipalities or regional
143 planning authorities to create local portals for similar purposes or committed to similar mission
144 outcomes as the MassMakers Portal, with the option of linking to or being incorporated into the
145 MassMakers Portal.

146 (d) The task force may, subject to appropriation, appoint and may remove all such
147 employees as may be necessary to carry out the work of designing and implementing the
148 MassMakers Portal based on the results of the needs and cost assessment. Unless otherwise
149 provided by law, all such appointments and removals of employees shall be made under chapter
150 31.

151 (e) The state secretary shall hold as a separate fund and may expend such sums as may
152 be appropriated for the MassMakers Portal by the general court, and may accept gifts, donations,
153 grants or bequests or any federal funds for any of the purposes set forth in this section, which
154 shall be credited to the fund. All available money in the fund that is unexpended at the end of
155 each fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund and shall be available for expenditure by the
156 task force in the subsequent fiscal year.

157 (f) The state secretary is hereby authorized to promulgate regulations to assure the
158 timely and effective implementation of this section.

159 SECTION 4. Chapter 23A of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out
160 section 10A and inserting the following section:-

161 Section 10A: Supply Mass/Buy Mass; MassMade

162 Section 10A. (a) In order for the commonwealth to execute on its responsibility of
163 facilitating expansion of the local economy, MOBD shall establish a program to be known as
164 Supply Mass/Buy Mass for the purpose of connecting local suppliers with local purchasers,
165 whether public or private, institutional, commercial or individual. In implementing said program,
166 MOBD shall:

167 (1) establish requirements for local suppliers to register as MassMade businesses with
168 Supply Mass/Buy Mass;

169 (2) design and implement a Supply Mass/Buy Mass interactive web portal through
170 which local suppliers can register as MassMade businesses and create MassMade business
171 profiles with industry-specific information;

172 (3) assemble a searchable database of MassMade businesses through the portal by
173 industry, raw materials produced or products or goods manufactured, and other identifying
174 characteristics, with specific search features independently tailored toward local institutional
175 purchasers, commercial purchasers, and individual purchasers;

176 (4) develop toolkits and training videos available through the portal to guide
177 MassMade businesses to better understand the needs and procurement processes of local
178 institutional and commercial purchasers;

179 (5) enable local institutional and commercial purchasers to issue requests for proposals
180 through the portal and MassMade businesses to respond to such requests through the portal;

181 (6) promote live networking events through the portal to connect MassMade
182 businesses with local institutional and commercial purchasers;

183 (7) determine those raw materials, products or goods needed by local institutional and
184 commercial purchasers currently purchased outside the commonwealth or from foreign
185 countries, especially raw materials, products or goods required for the first time; inquire whether
186 other local institutional or commercial purchasers are in need of such raw materials, products or
187 goods; assess whether any MassMade businesses are capable of producing or manufacturing the
188 needed raw materials, products or goods with additional capital or retooling;

189 (8) coordinate and connect the portal with the MassMakers Portal;

190 (9) identify other obstacles to conducting business in the commonwealth and advance
191 resources through the portal to address those obstacles to the extent possible;

192 (10) promote public-private partnerships;

193 (11) develop, evaluate and recommend policies, initiatives and incentives to prevent
194 consumer flight from local suppliers in the cities and towns of the Merrimack Valley and other
195 border municipalities to suppliers in New Hampshire or other tax advantaged states or from other
196 sources; and

197 (12) undertake any other activities necessary to implement the purposes of this section.

198 Dedicated effort shall be made to encourage diversity and advance equity based on
199 race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, genetic
200 information, ancestry, disability, and language in implementing Supply Mass/Buy Mass.

201 (b) MOBD may consult with and seek input from interested stakeholders and shall
202 work with entities including MassMade businesses, regional economic development
203 organizations, microbusiness and small business associations, chambers of commerce, the
204 supplier diversity office, the Massachusetts marketing partnership and the office of consumer
205 affairs and business regulations in order to collect and provide business and product information
206 related to MassMade businesses. All Supply Mass/Buy Mass information shall be readily
207 accessible and free to the public.

208 (c) MOBD shall hold as a separate fund and may expend such sums as may be
209 appropriated for Supply Mass/Buy Mass by the general court, and may accept gifts, donations,
210 grants or bequests or any federal funds for any of the purposes set forth in this section, which
211 shall be credited to the fund. All available money in the fund that is unexpended at the end of
212 each fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund and shall be available for expenditure by
213 MOBD for Supply Mass/Buy Mass in the subsequent fiscal year.

214 (d) MOBD is hereby authorized to promulgate regulations to assure the timely and
215 effective implementation of this section.

216 SECTION 5. Chapter 23A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
217 section 13 the following section:-

218 Section 13 ½: Mass Main Streets; executive director; function; employees; advisory
219 commission; industrial mill buildings; gifts and grants; trust fund

220 Section 13 ½. (a) There shall be within MOBD an office of Massachusetts main streets
221 to be known as Mass Main Streets, in this section referred to as MMS, which shall be under the
222 supervision and control of an executive director. The powers and duties given to the executive
223 director of MMS in this section and in any other general or special law shall be exercised and
224 discharged subject to the direction, control and supervision of MOBD.

225 (b)(1) The executive director of MMS shall be appointed by the governor, and serve at
226 the pleasure of the governor. The position of executive director of MMS shall be classified under
227 section 45 of chapter 30 and the executive director of MMS shall devote full time during
228 business hours to the duties of MMS.

229 (2) The executive director of MMS shall be the executive and administrative head of
230 MMS and shall be responsible for administering and enforcing the laws relative to MMS, any
231 administrative unit of MMS, and the policies, programs and initiatives enacted to fulfill the
232 mission of MMS pursuant to this section. Powers and duties given to an administrative unit of
233 MMS by a general or special law shall be exercised subject to the direction, control and
234 supervision of the executive director of MMS.

235 (c) MMS shall serve as the principal agency for protecting, coordinating, promoting
236 and revitalizing downtowns and commercial districts of the commonwealth's cities and towns,
237 advancing economic and community development within the context of historic preservation,
238 and advocating public-private partnerships to ensure continuing progress and enduring success,
239 by providing strategic, organizational, informational, marketing and technical assistance and

240 resources to the commonwealth's cities and towns and to public and private entities organized
241 for similar purposes or committed to similar mission outcomes. Dedicated effort shall be made to
242 encourage diversity and advance equity based on race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex,
243 gender identity, sexual orientation, genetic information, ancestry, disability, and language in any
244 recommendations, policies, programs and initiatives developed to fulfill the mission of MMS
245 pursuant to this section.

246 (d) The executive director of MMS may, subject to appropriation and with the approval
247 of MOBD, appoint and may, with like approval, remove all such employees as may be necessary
248 to carry out the work of MMS. Unless otherwise provided by law, all such appointments and
249 removals shall be made under chapter 31. The executive director may, subject to appropriation
250 and the laws and regulations pertaining to the employment of consultants, employ such
251 consultants as the executive director may deem necessary.

252 (e)(1) MMS shall establish an advisory commission to develop budget
253 recommendations and strategies for the development of policies, programs and initiatives to
254 fulfill the mission of MMS pursuant to this section, including, but not limited to, the design and
255 implementation of an MMS interactive web portal, coordination of such portal with the
256 MassMakers Portal, and qualification of MMS for Main Street America Certification in order to
257 be eligible for programs, tools and resources provided by Main Street America. The executive
258 director of MMS shall convene the advisory commission quarterly. The advisory commission
259 shall annually report its recommendations to MOBD not later than November 1. The advisory
260 commission shall annually file its recommendations with the clerks of the senate and house of
261 representatives not later than November 1. The membership of the commission shall annually
262 elect a chairperson.

263 (2) The advisory commission shall have 32 members: 1 representative from the
264 Massachusetts cultural council; 1 representative from the Massachusetts historical commission; 1
265 representative from the community economic development assistance corporation; 1
266 representative from Boston Main Streets Foundation; the executive director or the executor
267 director's designee of each of the commonwealth's 14 regional planning agencies: Berkshire
268 Regional Planning Commission, Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization, Cape Cod
269 Commission, Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission, Franklin Regional Council
270 of Governments, Martha's Vineyard Commission, Merrimack Valley Planning Commission,
271 Metropolitan Area Planning Council, Montachusett Regional Planning Commission, Nantucket
272 Planning and Economic Development Commission, Northern Middlesex Council of
273 Governments, Old Colony Planning Council, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, and
274 Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District; and 14 persons appointed
275 by the governor, 2 of whom shall be from each of the 7 regions of the commonwealth: the
276 western region, the central region, the northeast region, the Merrimack Valley, the metro west
277 region, the Greater Boston region, and the southeast region. Commission members shall be
278 persons with demonstrated interests and experience in advancing the cultural, historical and/or
279 economic vitality of downtowns and commercial districts of the commonwealth's cities and
280 towns. All persons appointed to the commission shall be selected without regard to political
281 affiliation and solely on the basis of the qualifications and experience that the appointing
282 authorities determine are necessary to fulfilling the mission of the commission, and shall as fully
283 as possible represent a diverse and equitable array of stakeholders. Each member appointed by
284 the governor shall serve at the pleasure of the governor.

285 (3) The members of the commission shall receive no compensation for their services
286 but shall be reimbursed for any usual and customary expenses incurred in the performance of
287 their duties. This commission shall annually, not later than November 1, make a report to the
288 executive director and the secretary of housing and economic development, and may make such
289 special reports as the commission or the executive director of MMS may deem desirable.

290 (f)(1) MMS shall establish a subcommittee of the advisory commission to develop
291 strategies to stimulate the redevelopment, rehabilitation and revitalization of industrial mill
292 buildings and their environs in the commonwealth. Recommendations of the subcommittee shall
293 be incorporated into the annual report filed by the advisory commission with the clerks of the
294 senate and house of representatives pursuant to paragraph 1 of subsection (e).

295 (2) The subcommittee shall serve as a research body for issues critical to the
296 redevelopment, rehabilitation and revitalization of industrial mill buildings and their environs in
297 the commonwealth and shall: (i) create a database and study, review and report on the status of
298 industrial mill buildings and their environs in the commonwealth; (ii) assess market conditions
299 relative to the economic robusticity of each active industrial mill building in its current use; (iii)
300 identify measures to improve industrial mill building energy efficiency and prevent further
301 structural and environmental degradation; (iv) investigate potential short-term and long-term
302 uses or development solutions for vacant or underutilized industrial mill buildings; (v) review
303 and advise the general court and the executive branch on the impact of existing and proposed
304 state laws, policies and regulations on the potential redevelopment, rehabilitation or
305 revitalization of industrial mill buildings and their environs, including, but not limited to, tax
306 incentives and renewable energy initiatives; (vi) explore innovative permitting processes, zoning
307 regulations and building codes to encourage the redevelopment, rehabilitation or revitalization of

308 industrial mill buildings and their environs; (vii) advance legislative and policy solutions to
309 effectuate the foregoing; (viii) advocate public-private partnership opportunities; and (ix) take
310 such other actions as deemed necessary in furtherance of its purposes.

311 (3) The subcommittee shall consist of those members of the advisory commission
312 representing jurisdictions containing industrial mill buildings, and 1 industrial mill building
313 owner from each region of the 7 regions identified in paragraph (2) of subsection (e) which
314 contains an industrial mill building appointed by the governor. Subcommittee members shall be
315 persons with demonstrated interests and experience in the redevelopment, rehabilitation and/or
316 revitalization of industrial mill buildings and their environs in the commonwealth. All persons
317 appointed to the subcommittee shall be selected without regard to political affiliation and solely
318 on the basis of the qualifications and experience that the appointing authorities determine are
319 necessary to fulfilling the mission of the subcommittee, and shall as fully as possible represent a
320 diverse and equitable array of stakeholders. Each member appointed by the governor shall serve
321 at the pleasure of the governor. The members of the subcommittee shall receive no compensation
322 for their services but shall be reimbursed for any usual and customary expenses incurred in the
323 performance of their duties.

324 (g) MMS may accept and solicit funds, including any gifts, donations, grants or
325 bequests or any federal funds for any of the purposes set forth in this section, which shall be
326 credited to the Mass Main Streets Trust Fund established pursuant to subsection (h).

327 (h)(1) There shall be a Mass Main Streets Trust Fund which shall be administered by
328 MOBD as custodian for MMS and held by MOBD separate and apart from its other funds. There

329 shall be credited to the fund such sums received pursuant to subsection (g) and such sums as may
330 be appropriated for MMS by the general court.

331 (2) All available money in the fund that is unexpended at the end of each fiscal year
332 shall not revert to the General Fund and shall be available for expenditure by MMS in the
333 subsequent fiscal year.

334 (3) MMS shall submit an annual report to MOBD, the clerks of the senate and house of
335 representatives and the joint committee on community development and small businesses not
336 later than December 31 on the cost-effectiveness of the fund. The report shall be made available
337 on the MMS website. The report shall include: (i) expenditures made by MMS from money out
338 of the fund to promote the revitalization of downtowns and commercial districts of the
339 commonwealth's cities and towns and to otherwise fulfill the mission of MMS pursuant to this
340 section; and (ii) expenditures made by MMS for administrative costs.

341 SECTION 6. Chapter 23A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
342 section 66 the following section:-

343 Section 66A: Microbusiness and minority business strategy commission; members;
344 powers and duties; meetings; annual report

345 Section 66A. (a) There shall be a microbusiness and minority business strategy
346 commission within, but not subject to the supervision or control of, the executive office of
347 housing and economic development. The mission of the commission shall be to enhance the
348 economic vitality of the commonwealth's microbusinesses and minority businesses, recognizing
349 the fundamental role that microbusinesses and minority businesses play in the economy and the

350 contributions made by microbusinesses and minority businesses to the general welfare of the
351 commonwealth.

352 (b) The commission shall consist of the following 18 members: the secretary of
353 housing and economic development, ex officio, or a designee; the secretary of administration and
354 finance, ex officio, or a designee; the chair of the commission against discrimination, ex officio,
355 or a designee; the director of the supplier diversity office, ex officio, or a designee, and 14
356 persons appointed by the governor, 2 of whom shall be from each of the 7 regions of the
357 commonwealth: the western region, the central region, the northeast region, the Merrimack
358 Valley, the metro west region, the Greater Boston region, and the southeast region. Of those 14
359 appointees, at least 3 shall be microbusiness owners or representatives of microbusiness owners
360 in underserved communities or communities with a high percentage of low-income households,
361 at least 3 shall be minority business owners or representatives of minority business owners in
362 underserved communities or communities with a high percentage of low-income households, and
363 at least 3 shall be founders or organizers of platforms, pop-up markets, or other vendor
364 collaboratives serving microbusinesses organized for similar purposes or committed to similar
365 mission outcomes as, for example, CI Works, WeWork, and Top Knots CoWorking, and/or
366 minority businesses organized for similar purposes or committed to similar mission outcomes for
367 advancing equity based on race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, gender identity,
368 sexual orientation, genetic information, ancestry, disability, or language as, for example,
369 BLK+GRN, the e-commerce platform We Buy Black, and the Black-Owned Market.
370 Commission members shall be persons with demonstrated interests and experience in advancing
371 the interests of microbusinesses and/or minority businesses, and their owners. All persons
372 appointed to the commission shall be selected without regard to political affiliation and solely on

373 the basis of the qualifications and experience that the appointing authorities determine are
374 necessary to fulfilling the mission of the commission, and shall as fully as possible represent a
375 diverse and equitable array of stakeholders.

376 (c) Members of the commission may serve a maximum of 3 consecutive 3-year terms.
377 A vacancy occurring on the commission shall be filled within 90 days by the original appointing
378 authority. A person appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve initially only for the balance of the
379 unexpired term. The commission shall annually elect from among its members a chair, a vice
380 chair, and any other officers it considers necessary. The members of the commission shall
381 receive no compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for any usual and customary
382 expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. Members shall be considered special state
383 employees for the purposes of chapter 268A. Each member of the commission shall be a resident
384 of the commonwealth.

385 (d) The commission shall serve as a research body for issues critical to the welfare and
386 vitality of the commonwealth's microbusinesses and minority businesses and shall: (i) study,
387 review and report on the status of microbusinesses and minority businesses in the
388 commonwealth; (ii) advise the general court and the executive branch of the impact of existing
389 and proposed state laws, policies and regulations on the commonwealth's microbusinesses and
390 minority businesses; (iii) advance legislative and policy solutions that address the needs of the
391 commonwealth's microbusinesses and minority businesses; (iv) advocate to ensure that the
392 commonwealth's microbusinesses and minority businesses receive a fair share of state
393 investment; (v) work with lending institutions, insurance companies, and other private businesses
394 in the commonwealth to encourage formation of seed money and microcredit opportunities for
395 facilitating the starting up and upscaling of microbusinesses and minority businesses in their

396 efforts to obtain loan money and operating capital from private and public lenders; (vi) promote
397 collaboration among the commonwealth's microbusinesses and minority businesses to improve
398 efficiency in delivery of services and other cost efficiencies; and (vii) develop and support access
399 to state resources for the commonwealth's microbusinesses and minority businesses. The
400 executive office shall provide the commission with adequate office space and any research,
401 analysis or other staff support that the commission reasonably requires.

402 (e) The commission shall meet on a quarterly basis at the discretion of the chair.
403 Meeting locations shall rotate between the 7 regions of the commonwealth identified in
404 subsection (b). Meetings shall be open to the public pursuant to sections 18 to 25, inclusive, of
405 chapter 30A.

406 (f) The commission may accept and solicit funds, including any gifts, donations, grants
407 or bequests or any federal funds for any of the purposes of this section. The funds shall be
408 deposited in a separate account with the state treasurer, shall be received by the state treasurer on
409 behalf of the commonwealth and shall be expended by the commission under the law.

410 (g) The commission shall annually, not later than June 2, report the results of its
411 findings and activities of the preceding year and its recommendations to the governor and to the
412 clerks of the senate and the house of representatives who shall forward the same to the joint
413 committee on economic development and emerging technologies.

414 (h) Notwithstanding any general or special law, regulation, policy or procedure to the
415 contrary, microbusinesses shall be exempt from the annual report fees imposed by the state
416 secretary's office, and minority businesses that qualify as microbusinesses shall be exempt from
417 the diversity certification and third-party certification application fees imposed by the supplier

418 diversity office. The state secretary is hereby authorized to promulgate regulations to assure the
419 timely and effective implementation of this subsection.

420 SECTION 7. Chapter 23A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
421 section 68 the following section:-

422 Section 69: HÛRE MASS

423 Section 69. (a) MOBD shall establish an entrepreneurial and business skills program to
424 be known as HÛRE MASS, designed to provide entrepreneurial and business skills to residents
425 of the commonwealth who are in the process of acquiring or who possess valuable saleable trade
426 skills, including, but not limited to, hairstylists and barbers, manicurists, aestheticians, massage
427 therapists, electricians, plumbers, and gas fitters, but who lack the knowledge to start or expand
428 their own businesses, in order to raise them to the level where they can start their own
429 businesses, become microbusinesses and eventually scale up to become small businesses and the
430 next generation's employers. Dedicated effort shall be made to encourage diversity and advance
431 equity based on race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual
432 orientation, genetic information, ancestry, disability, and language in the program developed
433 pursuant to the authority conferred in this section, and any successor policies, programs and
434 initiatives related to said program.

435 (b) MOBD shall consult with and engage relevant stakeholders in the commonwealth,
436 including, but not limited to, students, educators and administrators of vocational and technical
437 schools, community colleges, public colleges and universities, and private colleges and
438 universities, participants and administrators of other trade, certification and apprenticeship
439 programs, microbusiness and small business associations and owners, minority business

440 associations and owners, and trade and labor associations, to assist in the development and
441 periodic review of the program and its implementation, including, but not limited to:

442 (1) determining the criteria and processes for participation in HÛRE MASS, whether as
443 a student or educator, to maximize the number and diversity of people served;

444 (2) identifying entrepreneurial and microbusiness development needs and existing
445 resources and services;

446 (3) addressing obstacles for aspiring entrepreneurs and upscaling microbusiness
447 owners in utilizing existing resources and services and exploring methods to simplify, streamline
448 and strengthen the delivery of such resources and services;

449 (4) establishing curricula for HÛRE MASS, with special attention paid to the needs of
450 aspiring entrepreneurs and microbusiness owners for off-hour and accelerated programming,
451 including variants for entrepreneurial and business skills weekend “bootcamps”, to maximize the
452 skills gained and quality of outcomes achieved;

453 (5) engaging voluntary uncompensated and, subject to appropriation, compensated
454 educators and administrators to implement HÛRE MASS;

455 (6) cultivating and promoting public-private partnerships to ensure an enduring HÛRE
456 MASS program;

457 (7) generating toolkits and training videos to be made available through the
458 MassMakers Portal; and

459 (8) developing budget recommendations.

460 MOBD shall hold its first public outreach not more than 60 days after the effective
461 date of this act and shall, to the extent possible, ensure fair representation and input from a
462 diverse and equitable array of stakeholders. MOBD may assemble a task force to effectuate the
463 foregoing, whose members shall serve without compensation.

464 (c) MOBD shall hold as a separate fund and may expend such sums as may be
465 appropriated for HÛRE MASS by the general court, and may accept gifts, donations, grants or
466 bequests or any federal funds for any of the purposes set forth in this section, which shall be
467 credited to the fund. All available money in the fund that is unexpended at the end of each fiscal
468 year shall not revert to the General Fund and shall be available for expenditure by MOBD for
469 HÛRE MASS in the subsequent fiscal year.

470 (d) MOBD shall annually, on or before December 31, file a report with the clerks of
471 the house of representatives and the senate, the house and senate committees on ways and means,
472 the joint committee on economic development and emerging technologies, the joint committee
473 on community development and small businesses, the joint committee on labor and workforce
474 development, and the joint committee on education.

475 (e) MOBD is hereby authorized to promulgate regulations to assure the timely and
476 effective implementation of this section.

477 SECTION 8. Chapter 30A of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out
478 section 5A and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

479 Section 5A: Review of rules and regulations regarding economic impact on
480 microbusinesses and small businesses

481 Section 5A. Existing rules and regulations shall be reviewed by each agency
482 contemporaneously with the development of the written comprehensive economic development
483 policy for the commonwealth and the strategic plan for implementing the policy during the first
484 year of each new gubernatorial administration required pursuant to subsection (l) of section 16G
485 of chapter 6A, which review shall be completed no later than June 30 of that year in order to
486 inform said economic development policy, or 5 years from the date last reviewed, whichever
487 occurs first, to ensure that those rules and regulations minimize economic impact on
488 microbusinesses and small businesses in a manner consistent with the stated objectives of
489 applicable statutes.

490 In reviewing a rule or regulation to minimize economic impact of the rule or regulation
491 on microbusinesses and small businesses, the agency shall file a business impact statement which
492 considers the following factors and any impact differentials between microbusinesses and small
493 businesses that are not microbusinesses:

494 (1) the continuing need for the rule or regulation;

495 (2) the nature of complaints or comments received concerning the rule or regulation
496 from the public;

497 (3) the complexity of the rule or regulation;

498 (4) the extent to which the rule or regulation overlaps, duplicates or conflicts with
499 other federal, state and local governmental rules and regulations;

500 (5) the length of time since the rule or regulation has been enacted, changed, amended
501 or modified; and

502 (6) the degree to which technology, economic conditions or other factors have changed
503 in the subject areas affected by the rule or regulation.

504 SECTION 9. Section 6 of chapter 30B of the General Laws is hereby amended by
505 striking out subsection (b) and inserting the following subsection:-

506 (b) The chief procurement officer shall solicit proposals through a request for
507 proposals. The request for proposals shall include:

508 (1) the time and date for receipt of proposals, the address of the office to which the
509 proposals are to be delivered, the maximum time for proposal acceptance by the governmental
510 body;

511 (2) the purchase description and all evaluation criteria that will be utilized pursuant to
512 paragraph (e);

513 (3) a requirement for a diversity and inclusion plan which shall be considered
514 alongside traditional criteria when evaluating bids; and

515 (4) all contractual terms and conditions applicable to the procurement provided that the
516 contract may incorporate by reference a plan submitted by the selected offeror for providing the
517 required supplies or services.

518 The request for proposals may incorporate documents by reference; provided,
519 however, that the request for proposals specifies where prospective offerors may obtain the
520 documents. The request for proposals shall provide for the separate submission of price, and
521 shall indicate when and how the offerors shall submit the price. The chief procurement officer
522 shall make copies of the request for proposals available to all persons on an equal basis.

523 SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2022.

524 SECTION 11. Sections 3 and 9 shall only apply to requests for proposals proffered on
525 or after the effective date of this Act.