

**SENATE . . . . . No. 229**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Patricia D. Jehlen***

*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 resolve:

Resolve providing for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to protein innovation in Massachusetts.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>	
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/25/2023</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2023</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>2/3/2023</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>First Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>2/23/2023</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	<i>2/28/2023</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>3/6/2023</i>

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By Ms. Jehlen, a petition (accompanied by resolve, Senate, No. 229) of Patricia D. Jehlen, Jack Patrick Lewis, Jason M. Lewis, Michael O. Moore and other members of the General Court that provisions be made for an investigation and study by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to protein innovation in Massachusetts. Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**  
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Resolve providing for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to protein innovation in Massachusetts.

1           **Resolved**, that a special Protein Innovation Commission is hereby established for the  
2 purposes of making an investigation and study relative to alternative proteins and to develop a  
3 master plan of recommendations for fostering the appropriate expansion of protein innovation  
4 and the alternative protein industry in the Commonwealth. The special legislative commission  
5 shall study how the commonwealth of Massachusetts can best support the growing alternative  
6 protein industry in the state. The commission shall examine the potential economic development  
7 benefits, and job creation potential, of the plant-based, cultivated, and fermented meat industries  
8 in Massachusetts; identify the environmental benefits, including with respect to the reduced land  
9 use, reduced deforestation, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions, of alternative proteins  
10 compared to conventional meat and dairy products in Massachusetts; examine how alternative  
11 proteins can strengthen the state’s food resiliency; assess how alternative proteins can improve  
12 individual and public health and combat antibiotic resistance; identify ways the state of

13 Massachusetts can foster the growth of the emerging alternative protein industry, including by  
14 reviewing past efforts made to support the broader biotech and life science industries.

15 As used in this resolve, the following words shall have the following meanings unless the  
16 context clearly requires otherwise:

17 “Alternative proteins” refers to proteins created from plant-based, fermented, or cell-  
18 cultured inputs and processes to create foods that share sensory characteristics that are consistent  
19 with conventional meat and dairy.

20 “Plant-based protein” refers to proteins produced directly from plants, composed of  
21 protein, fat, vitamins, minerals, and water.

22 “Fermented proteins” refers to proteins made from traditional fermentation, biomass  
23 fermentation, and precision fermentation.

24 “Cultivated meat” refers to meat that is directly produced from animal cells using a cell  
25 cultivation process using bioreactors.

26 The Protein Innovation Commission shall consist of 13 members: 3 members of the  
27 senate, 2 of whom shall be appointed by the president and 1 of whom shall be appointed by the  
28 minority leader of the senate, 3 members of the house 2 of whom shall be appointed by the  
29 speaker and 1 of whom shall be appointed by the minority leader of the house. The president and  
30 the speaker shall each designate 1 of their appointments to serve as co-chair of the commission.  
31 The commission shall further consist of the secretary of economic development or their designee,  
32 and 6 members appointed by the governor, 2 of whom are engaged in academic or scientific  
33 research on alternative protein development at a Massachusetts college or university, 1 of whom

34 is engaged in the private sector research and development of alternative proteins; 1 of whom  
35 shall be an expert in food security issues; and 1 of whom shall be the president of the  
36 Massachusetts Biotechnology Council or their designee.

37 Members shall not receive compensation for their services.

38 All appointments shall be made not later than 30 days after the effective date of this  
39 resolve. The co-chairs shall schedule no fewer than 4 meetings of the commission, including no  
40 fewer than 1 public hearing. The co-chairs shall convene the first meeting of the special  
41 commission within 60 days after the effective date of this resolve.

42 The commission shall study and analyze the potential benefits of alternative proteins, and  
43 shall address in its review: (i) the job growth potential of the alternative protein industry in  
44 Massachusetts, as demand for meat continues to grow; (ii) how plant-based, fermented, and  
45 cultivated meat can reduce the state's greenhouse gas emissions, and yield other environmental  
46 benefits; (iii) how the state can support new and emerging companies in this sector, and what  
47 pressing challenges the industry currently faces; (iv) any other topic that the commission may  
48 choose to examine in relation to alternative proteins.

49 The commission shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the General  
50 Court, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry out those recommendations, not later  
51 than December 31, 2023.