

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 778**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Michael S. Day, (BY REQUEST)***

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*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 to review, consider, and evaluate, and to establish a suitable body and/or special commission to consider climate change economic consequences.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Vincent L. Dixon</i>	<i>60 Lake Street – Unit N Winchester, Mass. 01890</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 778**

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By Representative Day of Stoneham (by request), a petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 778) of Vincent L. Dixon for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) to study the economic consequences of climate change. Environment and Natural Resources.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 877 OF 2021-2022.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**  
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Resolve to review, consider, and evaluate, and to establish a suitable body and/or special commission to consider climate change economic consequences.

1           **Resolved**, 1.) It appears, and it is generally agreed, that Climate Change, is occurring,  
2 across our Planet Earth, and that there are actual present consequences, and potential actual  
3 future consequences of these circumstances. It has generally been determined that there is a  
4 global warming phenomena, that this can also lead to various extremes, that cause rises in water  
5 levels, extreme variations in temperature, risks of extreme droughts, exaggerated extremes in  
6 storms, and other effects.

7           2.) While there are numerous arguments regarding, specific details of causation, its  
8 extent, and its potential severity, there is little argument, as to the reality of these circumstances.

9           3.) Important aspects of government, public policy, and public services, include, but are  
10 not limited to, providing for the public good, in terms of lives, public health, public safety, and  
11 reasonable protection of property, both public, and private.

12           4.) Recent disasters, and continuing erosion, especially along the Massachusetts coast,  
13 numerous flooding events within the Commonwealth, and other severe weather events, have  
14 caused damage to the Commonwealth, its citizens, its businesses, and its economic costs; and  
15 potentially presage many further, potentially damaging events.

16           5.) While larger policies, can most effectively be dealt with by the broader Federal  
17 agencies, and government; and various international agreements; there are numerous practical  
18 circumstances, that should be addressed, and measured, in terms of looking forward, for the  
19 reasonable security of our Commonwealth; and its cities, and towns.

20           6.) It is in the interests of all residents of our Commonwealth, that their local  
21 governments in the municipalities, and other public agencies, be able to anticipate such costs,  
22 needs for various actions, and what amounts of financing, may be needed, as part of responsible  
23 public services, and long-term planning. This will assist residents, home owners, businesses,  
24 institutions, and other stakeholders, in their long-term planning, as well as their ordinary  
25 operations.

26           7.) Therefore, this Resolve, creates a Climate Change Economic Consequences  
27 Commission, to collect data (including both existing, and new needed data); assess various  
28 likely, and possible, scenarios, relating to climate changes, environmental variations, and other  
29 reasonable adjustments of public policy; and to report on various levels of cost, appropriate

30 descriptions of insurance, and financing; in terms of individuals, possible disasters, and other  
31 related matters, that are important to the people of our Commonwealth.

32 8.) Membership – The membership of this Commission shall be appointed as follows: A  
33 total membership of twenty-one (21); five (5) appointed by the Governor, five (5) by the  
34 President of the Senate, five (5) by the Speaker of the House; and the remaining six (6) by the  
35 first fifteen (15); from individuals of the Commonwealth applying, including representatives of  
36 organizations, scientists, local city and town municipalities, insurance adjusters, financial  
37 organizational planners, infrastructure experts, and ordinary citizens.

38 9.) Duration of Commission – This Commission shall hold regular hearings, at least four  
39 (4) per year, across the Commonwealth, and file reports, on an at least annual basis, completing  
40 its business, not later than five (5) years after its establishment.