

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Kenneth I. Gordon

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 the Office of the State Climatologist.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
Kenneth I. Gordon	21st Middlesex	1/9/2023
Steven Owens	29th Middlesex	1/24/2023
Mindy Domb	3rd Hampshire	1/24/2023
Steven Ultrino	33rd Middlesex	1/25/2023
Lindsay N. Sabadosa	1st Hampshire	1/25/2023
Michael J. Barrett	Third Middlesex	1/26/2023
Jessica Ann Giannino	16th Suffolk	1/27/2023
William C. Galvin	6th Norfolk	2/15/2023

HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 931 FILED ON: 1/17/2023

By Representative Gordon of Bedford, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 822) of Kenneth I. Gordon and others relative to the office of the state climatologist within the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. Environment and Natural Resources.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION SEE HOUSE, NO. 4062 OF 2021-2022.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to the Office of the State Climatologist.

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. Chapter 21A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official

2 Edition, is hereby amended by striking section 24 and inserting in the place thereof the following

3 section:-

Section 24. There shall be an office of the state climatologist which shall be independent of the executive office and under the supervision and control of a state climatologist to be appointed by the secretary. The office of the state climatologist shall be housed by the University of Massachusetts system and shall: (i) gather and analyze data on climate conditions in the commonwealth; (ii) conduct and foster research concerning the climate in the commonwealth and look for opportunities for sponsored research concerning climate issues in the commonwealth; (iii) coordinate with the National Centers for Environmental Information and the

11 Northeast Regional Climate Center both of the United States Department of Commerce/National 12 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Northeast Regional Climate Adaptation Science 13 Center of the United States Department of the Interior, and the Northeast Climate Hub of the 14 United States Department of Agriculture; and (iv) educate and inform the public on matters 15 related to the climate. The office of the state climatologist shall advise branches of state and local 16 government concerning the climate in the commonwealth and its implications for both economic 17 and scientific needs in conjunction with existing and future environmental factors relating to the 18 climate in the commonwealth. The office of the state climatologist shall maintain a liaison with 19 state, academic, and scientific institutions and join federal and international climate interest 20 groups. The state climatologist shall serve for a term of 5 years but may be reappointed. The 21 office of the state climatologist shall be funded by the executive office.