

SENATE No. 1587

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James B. Eldridge

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 promoting zero net-energy buildings in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

James B. Eldridge

Middlesex and Worcester

David M. Rogers

24th Middlesex

SENATE No. 1587

By Mr. Eldridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1587) of James B. Eldridge and David M. Rogers for legislation to promote zero net-energy buildings in the Commonwealth. Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1665 OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act promoting zero net-energy buildings in the Commonwealth.

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 143 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended in Section 94 by striking subsection (o) in its entirety and inserting in place
3 thereof the following new subsection:-

4 (o) To establish a zero net energy building standard for new residential construction by
5 January 1st, 2020 and a zero net energy building standard for new commercial construction by
6 January 1st 2030. The board shall implement residential and commercial zero net energy
7 building regulations as part of the state building code, together with any more stringent energy
8 efficiency provisions that the board, in consultation with the department of energy resources,
9 concludes are warranted. The residential and commercial zero net energy building standards
10 shall incrementally increase the energy efficiency of all new construction beginning with a 30%
11 increase in efficiency below the most recent international energy conservation code, as
12 developed by the International Code Council.

13 SECTION 2. Said chapter 143 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby further
14 amended in Section 94 by inserting after subsection (r) the following new subsection:-

15 (s) To establish two definitions, in consultation with the department of energy resources
16 and after sufficient time for public input, one for “residential zero net-energy buildings,” to be

17 established by January 1st, 2015, and one for “commercial zero net energy buildings,” to be
18 established by January 1st, 2016. The definitions shall take into account zero net energy building
19 definitions established in other states or municipalities and the current and anticipated climate of
20 Massachusetts. Further, the definitions shall be designed to ensure that all zero net energy
21 buildings generate as much renewable electricity, as defined in the state renewable electricity
22 standard, through on-site, or a reasonably proximate, approved, off-site location, as the building
23 consumes over the course of one calendar year.