

HOUSE No. 2767

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

An Act reducing the sales tax and establishing a state land tax..

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. Reducing the State Sales Tax

2 Section 4 of Chapter 64H of the Massachusetts General Laws, as appearing in the 2004
3 official edition, is hereby amended by striking out “five” in line 13 and inserting in place thereof
4 the word “four”.

5 SECTION 2. Establishing the State Land Tax

6 The General Laws are hereby amended by inserting after Chapter 58A the following
7 chapter:

8 Chapter 58B

9 State Land Tax

10 There shall be a tax on all taxable land throughout the commonwealth.

11 In the first year, the tax shall be levied at the rate of five dollars per thousand. There
12 shall be no state tax on improvements. For the purposes of this section, the assessed value of

13 taxable land as shown on local property tax bills shall be used. The state land tax shall be
14 collected by the municipality and forwarded to the state department of revenue.

15 SECTION 3.

16 In subsequent years, the legislature shall determine the amount of the reduction of the
17 sales and/or income tax and the corresponding increase in the state land tax.

18 SECTION 4.

19 The goal of this act is, over time, to eliminate the sales and income taxes entirely in favor
20 of a state land tax.

21 SECTION 5.

22 The state land tax take effect December 31 following enactment.