

# SENATE . . . . . No. 1479

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand Nine  
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An Act relative to the production of wind energy in Boston harbor..

*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. It is hereby found and declared that Boston Harbor is consistently an area  
2 that generates higher than average wind speeds, classified as level 4 for wind strength.

3                   It is further found that wind energy is considered a clean and renewable energy  
4 resource.

5                   It is further found that the Boston region is beset by high energy costs from  
6 fossil fuels that burden local businesses and residents, necessitating a need to consider alternative  
7 sources of power generation;

8           Therefore, notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Executive  
9 Office of Environmental Affairs, the Department of Environmental Protection and the  
10 Department of Telecommunications and Energy, working in conjunction with other relevant  
11 federal, state and local agencies and government departments and private and non-profit energy  
12 providers and advocacy organizations, is hereby required to conduct a study into the feasibility  
13 of wind energy generation in the area of Boston Harbor. Said study must include an analysis of

14 possible locations for the creation of a “wind energy farm” on a land site in Boston Harbor; the  
15 costs of creating such an operation; the environmental impacts of wind-energy; and the potential  
16 for a public-private partnership to generate wind energy in the Boston region. The Executive  
17 Office of Environmental Affairs, the Department of Environmental Protection and the  
18 Department of Telecommunications and Energy must consider examples of successful wind  
19 energy production in other areas of the United States and in other nations, most notably in  
20 Western Europe and Asia, during said study. Said study must be submitted to the General  
21 Court’s joint committee on energy no later than January 1, 2010.