

SENATE No. 369

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Brian A. Joyce

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 prohibiting polystyrene packaging by 2017.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Brian A. Joyce

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth

SENATE No. 369

By Mr. Joyce, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 369) of Brian A. Joyce for legislation to prohibit polystyrene packaging by 2017. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act prohibiting polystyrene packaging by 2017.

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. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection shall
2 promulgate regulations to prohibit the use of plastic carryout bags by the year 2017. For
3 purposes of this act, “plastic carryout bag” means a plastic carryout bag provided by a store to a
4 customer at the point of sale for the purpose of carrying purchased items from the store. “Plastic
5 carryout bag” shall not include plastic bags in which loose produce is placed by the customer to
6 deliver such items to the point of sale area of a store. This act shall not prohibit compostable
7 plastic carryout bags, which conform to the current ASTM-Standard Specifications for
8 compostability and is certified and labeled as meeting the ASTM-Standard by a recognized
9 verification entity such as the Biodegradable Product Institute.

10 The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection shall promulgate regulations
11 to enforce this act