

SENATE No. 1056

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael J. Barrett

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 solar drying of laundry.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Michael J. Barrett</i>	<i>Third Middlesex</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>Ellen Story</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Cory Atkins</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>

SENATE No. 1056

By Mr. Barrett, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1056) of Michael J. Barrett, Mary S. Keefe, Ellen Story, Cory Atkins and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to solar drying of laundry. Municipalities and Regional Government.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act relative to solar drying of laundry.

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 184 of the general laws, as appearing in the 2012 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

3 Section 36. (a) This subsection shall take effect in any city or town upon the approval by
4 the legislative body and their acceptance by the voters of a ballot question as set forth in this
5 section.

6 (b) For the purposes of this section, the term “clothesline” shall include a rope, cord, wire
7 or similar device on which clothing is hung outdoors to dry.

8 (c) For the purposes of this section, the term “association of homeowners” shall include a
9 community association, condominium association, homeowners association, cooperative, or any
10 other non-governmental entity with covenants, bylaws, and administrative provisions with which
11 the homeowner’s compliance is required.

12 (d) Notwithstanding any general or special law or the terms of any contract, deed,
13 covenant, restriction, rule, by-law, lease agreement, rental agreement to the contrary, a
14 homeowner or tenant shall not be prohibited from the installation and use of a clothesline.

15 (e) An association of homeowners may adopt rules that reasonably restrict the placement
16 and use of clotheslines for the purposes of drying clothes on the premise of any residential
17 dwelling, provided, however, that those restrictions shall not prohibit the use of clotheslines
18 entirely. No private entity shall assess or charge any homeowner any fees for the placement and
19 use of any clothesline.

20 SECTION 2. Upon approval by the legislative body of a city or town, the following
21 question shall be placed on the official ballot and submitted to the voters of said city or town at
22 the next regular municipal or state election:-

23 “Shall (the city or town) accept an act passed by the general court in the year 2015,
24 entitled ‘A Act relative to solar drying of laundry’?”