

HOUSE No. 2593

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael J. Finn

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 to promote economic development in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Michael J. Finn</i>	<i>6th Hampden</i>	<i>1/20/2017</i>

HOUSE No. 2593

By Mr. Finn of West Springfield, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2593) of Michael J. Finn for legislation to authorize tourism destination marketing districts within cities and towns to be funded by room occupancy fee assessments. Revenue.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act to promote economic development 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: Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, upon written
2 petition of 51% of hotel owners or their designees, and approval of the governing body of the
3 municipality where such hotels are located, a municipality, or group of municipalities, may
4 establish a Tourism Destination Marketing District. Hotels located in a municipality which has
5 approved joining a Tourism Destination Marketing District shall be assessed fee on room
6 occupancy for the purpose of the promotion and marketing of tourism and related economic
7 development, which shall be predetermined and contained in the petition approved by the
8 municipal legislative body. The fee shall be collected by the treasurer or collector of the
9 municipality in which the hotel is located and held in an interest bearing account.

10 SECTION 2: A management entity shall be designated for each Tourism Destination
11 Marketing District by written approval of 51% of the hotel owners or their designee located in
12 the district. The management entity shall be listed on the petition for approval delivered to the

13 municipal governing body. Only an entity currently operating as a designated Regional Tourism
14 Council shall be eligible to act as a management entity for a Tourism Destination Marketing
15 District established pursuant to this act.

16 SECTION 3: On a monthly basis each municipality participating in a Tourism
17 Destination Marketing District shall disburse the funds collected pursuant to this act, along with
18 accrued interest, to the designated management entity for the purpose of promotion and
19 marketing of tourism and related economic development within the Tourism Destination
20 Marketing District.