

HOUSE No. 2916

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Ann-Margaret Ferrante

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 recycling.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Ann-Margaret Ferrante</i>	<i>5th Essex</i>	<i>1/20/2017</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Marc R. Pacheco</i>	<i>First Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Carlos González</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>	
<i>Alice Hanlon Peisch</i>	<i>14th Norfolk</i>	

HOUSE No. 2916

By Ms. Ferrante of Gloucester, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2916) of Ann-Margaret Ferrante and others for legislation to establish performance standards for the reduction of municipal solid waste. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 671 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to recycling.

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 commissioner of environmental protection shall establish performance
2 standards for the reduction of municipal solid waste, as described in section 2, to achieve the
3 purposes of the commonwealth's solid waste master plan and greenhouse gas reduction plan and
4 to protect the natural environment, preserve resources, achieve progress toward the
5 commonwealth's goals to reduce greenhouse gases and create green jobs in the commonwealth.
6 The performance standards shall be promulgated by July 1, 2015.

7

8 SECTION 2. The department of environmental protection shall establish performance
9 standards for municipal solid waste reduction on the basis of pounds per capita of solid waste

10 disposed. The standards shall reduce solid waste to not more than 600 pounds per capita by July
11 1, 2016 and not more than 450 pounds per capita by July 1, 2021.

12

13 SECTION 3. Not later than October 1, 2015, the secretary of energy and environmental
14 affairs, in consultation with the department of environmental protection and the department of
15 energy resources, shall develop a municipal solid waste standards action plan to assist
16 municipalities in achieving the standards set forth in this act. The secretary shall review the
17 effectiveness of existing recycling programs and other incentives available to achieve said
18 standards and shall provide any recommendation including, but not limited to, potential
19 regulatory and statutory changes to the commonwealths solid waste master plan, the 2020 Clean
20 Energy and Climate Plan and the commonwealths Green Communities Plan. The secretary shall
21 consult with the solid waste advisory committee in developing said plan.

22

23 SECTION 4. Cities and towns shall report to the department of environmental protection
24 not later than September 1 of each year the total weight of solid waste disposed of through said
25 city or towns solid waste program during the prior fiscal year, as well as the number of
26 households and residents who participated in said program. If the department makes a
27 determination that a city or town has not met the municipal solid waste reduction performance
28 standards as prescribed by the department by July 1, 2016, said city or town shall submit a report
29 to the department setting forth the reasons the town did not meet the standards and detailing a
30 plan to achieve said performance standards by July 1, 2021. The department shall issue a report
31 for all municipal solid waste programs not later than December 1 of that year providing per

32 capita solid waste disposal statistics for all municipal solid waste programs and shall file the
33 same with the clerks of the senate and house of representatives and the joint committee on
34 environment, natural resources and agriculture. The report may disaggregate solid waste tonnage
35 information to highlight categories of waste including waste that is beyond the control of a city
36 or town such as waste created as a result of a natural disaster.