

HOUSE No. 3666

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Carmine Lawrence Gentile

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 resolve:

Resolve establishing a commission to meet energy neutral building standards.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/17/2019</i>
<i>Maria Duaiame Robinson</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/20/2019</i>
<i>Tommy Vitolo</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>	<i>3/20/2019</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>	<i>3/20/2019</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/20/2019</i>
<i>Brian W. Murray</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>	<i>3/21/2019</i>

HOUSE No. 3666

By Mr. Gentile of Sudbury, a petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 3666) of Carmine Lawrence Gentile and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the implementation of energy neutral building designs and standards. Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)

Resolve establishing a commission to meet energy neutral building standards.

1 Resolved, that, notwithstanding any general or special laws to the contrary, there shall be
2 established a commission called the energy neutral building standards commission, hereinafter
3 referred to as the commission, for the purpose of identifying best practices for the
4 implementation of energy neutral building designs and standards. For the purposes of this act an
5 energy neutral design is a design of any type that has the environment and low energy
6 consumption practices in mind during all stages of planning and production and a zero-energy
7 building is a building with zero net energy consumption such that the total amount of energy
8 used by the building on an annual basis is roughly equal to the amount of renewable energy
9 created on the site.

10 The commission shall consist of 13 members: 3 members of the senate, 2 of whom shall
11 be selected by the senate president and 1 of whom shall be selected by the minority leader; 3
12 members of the house of representatives, 2 of whom shall be selected by the speaker of the house
13 of representatives and 1 of whom shall be selected by the minority leader; the secretary of

14 housing and economic development or a designee; the secretary of energy and environmental
15 affairs or a designee; the president of the Massachusetts AFL-CIO or a designee; the president of
16 the Home Builders and Remodelers Association of Massachusetts, Inc., or a designee; the
17 president of the Massachusetts Municipal Association, Inc., or a designee, the executive director
18 of the Conservation Law Foundation, Inc., or a designee; and the executive director of the
19 Environmental League of Massachusetts, Inc., or a designee. One senator selected by the senate
20 president shall serve as a co-chair. One member of the house of representatives chosen by the
21 speaker of the house shall serve as a co-chair.

22 The commission shall: (i) recommend revision of the Massachusetts building code for
23 residential buildings and class A office space constructed on or after January 1, 2022 such that
24 said structures will be required to be energy neutral by their design; provided however, that,
25 while the ultimate goal would be to create zero energy buildings, the regulatory changes
26 recommended by the commission shall be calculated not to increase the cost of new construction
27 more than 10 per cent over and above the cost of building a structure utilizing the
28 Massachusetts building code extant for the year 2018; (ii) develop a program to inform and
29 prepare architects, construction companies, municipal building inspectors, and the public of the
30 new requirements; and (iii) submit a report with recommended building code changes and
31 statutory changes to the: governor; secretary of housing and economic development; secretary of
32 energy and environmental affairs; speaker of the house; and senate president on or before
33 January 1, 2021.