

HOUSE No. 801

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Kate Hogan

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 facilitate and simplify grant application procedures for family farms.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Kate Hogan</i>	<i>3rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i>
<i>Angelo M. Scaccia</i>	<i>14th Suffolk</i>
<i>Paul A. Schmid, III</i>	<i>8th Bristol</i>
<i>Norman J. Orrall</i>	<i>12th Bristol</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Thomas A. Golden, Jr.</i>	<i>16th Middlesex</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>
<i>Dean A. Tran</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>

<i>Paul W. Mark</i>	<i>2nd Berkshire</i>
<i>Harold P. Naughton, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Worcester</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>

HOUSE No. 801

By Ms. Hogan of Stow, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 801) of Kate Hogan and others for legislation to facilitate and simplify grant application procedures for family farms. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to facilitate and simplify grant application procedures for family farms.

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 20 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by adding after section 32 the following section:—

3 Section 33. (a) The commissioner, in consultation with the board, shall develop a single
4 uniform application for use by owners of farms in the commonwealth for application to any and
5 all grant and other assistance programs administered by the department, including, without
6 limitation, the Massachusetts farm energy program, the agricultural energy grant program, the
7 agricultural environmental enhancement program and the agricultural climate resiliency and
8 efficiencies program; provided, however, that this section shall not apply to the agricultural
9 preservation restriction program. The uniform application shall be consistent with federal grant
10 and program application criteria in order to facilitate applications to federal programs including
11 the Rural Energy for America Program.

12 (b) The department shall designate an administrator or separate office within department
13 to provide advice, technical assistance and other guidance to owners of farms who apply for
14 grants and other programs through the department. The administrator or office shall provide
15 applicants with information and resources regarding any and all grants and programs available
16 through the department and any other state or federal programs.

17 (c) As used in this section, “farm” shall not include any farm used to grow marijuana