

SENATE No. 200

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Cynthia Stone Creem

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 blockchain and cryptocurrencies.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Cynthia Stone Creem</i>	<i>First Middlesex and Norfolk</i>	
<i>Tommy Vitolo</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Eric P. Lesser</i>	<i>First Hampden and Hampshire</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>

SENATE No. 200

By Ms. Creem, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 200) of Cynthia Stone Creem, Tommy Vitolo and Eric P. Lesser for legislation relative to blockchain and cryptocurrencies. Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to blockchain and cryptocurrencies.

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, a special
2 commission is hereby established for the purposes of making an investigation and study relative
3 to the emerging technologies of blockchain and cryptocurrencies. Specifically, the special
4 commission shall examine the following:

5 (a) The feasibility of using blockchain technology for government records or delivery
6 of services;

7 (b) The validity and admissibility of blockchain records in court proceedings;

8 (c) The advisability of allowing corporate records to be kept using blockchain
9 technology, including any security requirements necessary to ensure the accuracy of such
10 records;

- 11 (d) The advisability of using blockchain technology to protect voter records and
12 election results;
- 13 (e) The feasibility of creating statewide registries using blockchain for such topics as
14 firearms, marijuana or opiates;
- 15 (f) The advisability of government agencies accepting payment in cryptocurrencies;
- 16 (g) The advisability of taxing cryptocurrency transactions as part of the sales tax;
- 17 (h) The advisability of allowing cryptocurrencies as a form of payment for cannabis
18 retail stores;
- 19 (i) The feasibility of regulating the intense energy consumption associated with
20 cryptocurrencies; and
- 21 (j) Any other related topic which the commission may choose to examine in relation
22 to blockchain or cryptocurrencies.

23 SECTION 2. The commission shall consist of 15 members: 1 member whom shall be the
24 president of the senate or a designee who shall serve as co-chair, 1 of whom shall be the minority
25 leader of the senate or a designee; 1 of whom shall be the speaker of the house or a designee who
26 shall serve as co-chair, 1 of whom shall be the minority leader of the house of representatives or
27 a designee; 2 of whom shall be the senate and houses chairs of the joint committee on economic
28 development and emerging technologies; 2 of whom shall be the senate and house chairs of the
29 joint committee on revenue; the chairman of the cannabis control commission or a designee; the
30 commissioner of the department of revenue or a designee; the secretary of the executive office of

31 technology services and security or a designee; the secretary of public safety and security or a
32 designee; and 3 persons to be appointed by the governor.

33 All appointments shall be made not later than 30 days after the effective date of this
34 resolve. The chairpersons shall meet with the commission not later than 60 days after the
35 effective date of this resolve.

36 SECTION 3. Not later than one year after the effective date of this resolve, the
37 commission shall report to the general court the result of its investigation and study and its
38 recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry its
39 recommendations into effect by filing the same with the clerk of the house of representatives and
40 the clerk of the senate.