

SENATE No. 903

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Julian Cyr

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 streamline housing production.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>First Essex</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>

SENATE No. 903

By Mr. Cyr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 903) of Julian Cyr, Kay Khan, Mary S. Keefe, Diana DiZoglio and other members of the General Court for legislation to streamline housing production. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to streamline housing production.

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 17 of chapter 40A of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
2 inserting after the second paragraph the following paragraph:-

3 The court, in its discretion, may require non-municipal plaintiffs in an action under this
4 section to post a surety or cash bond in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 to secure the payment
5 of costs in appeals of decisions approving special permits, variances and site plans where the
6 court finds that the harm to the defendants or to the public interest resulting from the delays of
7 appeal outweighs the burden of the surety or cash bond on the plaintiffs. When making a
8 decision regarding surety or cash bond requirements, the court may consider the relative merits
9 of the appeal and the relative financial means of the appellant and the defendants.