

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 299**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Todd M. Smola*

*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 establish to an industrial mill building task force.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>	<i>2/1/2021</i>
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i>	<i>3/1/2021</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 299**

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By Mr. Smola of Warren, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 299) of Todd M. Smola and Anne M. Gobi for legislation to establish an industrial mill building revitalization task force (including members of the General Court) to stimulate the re-development, rehabilitation and revitalization of industrial mill buildings and surrounding areas in the Commonwealth. Community Development and Small Businesses.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 188 OF 2019-2020.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act to establish to an industrial mill building task force.

*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 XXXX. (a) There shall be an industrial mill building revitalization task force  
2 to stimulate the re-development, rehabilitation and revitalization of industrial mill buildings and  
3 surrounding areas in the commonwealth. The task force shall: (i) review current laws and  
4 regulations beneficial the revitalization of mill buildings and surrounding areas, including, but  
5 not limited to, federal and state tax incentives and renewable energy production; (ii) create a list  
6 of existing mill buildings, their locations, whether they are active or inactive and current uses, if  
7 applicable, in the commonwealth; (iii) investigate potential new uses for mill buildings based on  
8 market conditions that increase economic development; (iv) identify strategies to improve mill  
9 building energy efficiency and prevent further structural and environmental degradation; (v)

10 explore innovative permitting processes, zoning regulations and building codes to encourage  
11 redevelopment; and (vi) consider any other action in furtherance of its purpose.

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13 (b) The task force shall consist of the secretary of housing and economic development, or  
14 a designee, who shall serve as chair; the secretary of energy and environmental affairs, or a  
15 designee; the chairs of the joint committee on economic development and emerging  
16 technologies, or their designees; the director of Massachusetts Development Finance Agency, or  
17 a designee; 2 members of the house of representatives who represent communities with mill  
18 buildings, designated by the speaker of the house of representatives; 2 members of the senate  
19 who represent communities with mill buildings, designated by the senate president; the director  
20 of the Massachusetts clean energy center, or a designee; 2 residents of the commonwealth who  
21 own mill buildings, 1 active and 1 inactive, designated by the chair; 1 representative of a  
22 Massachusetts utility company, designated by the chair; 1 representative from an economic  
23 development organization, designated by the chair; 3 representatives of Massachusetts planning  
24 organizations, 1 of whom shall be from the western region of the state, 1 of whom shall be from  
25 the central region of the state and 1 of whom shall be from the eastern region of the state,  
26 designated by the chair.

27

28 (c) The task force shall submit its report and recommendations, together with drafts of  
29 legislation to carry its recommendations into effect, to the chairs of the joint committee on  
30 economic development and emerging technologies and the clerks of the house of representatives  
31 and the senate not later than August 1, 2021.