

HOUSE No. 3205

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Steven Owens

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 promote solar energy development consistent with the commonwealth's 2050 next generation road map.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED: |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Steven Owens</i> | <i>29th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/19/2023</i> |
| <i>Michelle L. Ciccolo</i> | <i>15th Middlesex</i> | <i>3/14/2023</i> |
| <i>Priscila S. Sousa</i> | <i>6th Middlesex</i> | <i>6/26/2023</i> |
| <i>James B. Eldridge</i> | <i>Middlesex and Worcester</i> | <i>10/12/2023</i> |

HOUSE No. 3205

By Representative Owens of Watertown, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3205) of Steven Owens relative to solar energy development. Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act to promote solar energy development consistent with the commonwealth's 2050 next generation road map.

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. The legislature shall establish annual targets for solar based on the
2 Governor’s stated intent to develop 10 GW of solar by 2030 (1.25 GW/year, or a lower target
3 escalating as necessary), and instruct DOER to revise the SMART Program to meet these targets,
4 as follows:

5 A. Establish sub-targets for the different types of solar installations (roof-mount, ground-
6 mount, parking lot), and instruct DOER to increase the SMART Program adders in order to
7 achieve those targets (i.e. increase adders for Building, Canopy, Community Shared Solar,
8 Agricultural and Tracker—including single-axis in order that these adders accurately reflect true
9 costs to incentivize adequate additional capacity to meet annual goals and are adjusted annually
10 by DOER).

11 B. Instruct DOER to revise basic SMART rates to counter substantial component price
12 increases over the past 12 months. The rate revision should be guided by a 3rd party assessment
13 of what rates will be required to drive solar installations to established targets.

14 C. Instruct DOER to make rates consistent across all utility service territories.

15 D. Instruct DOER to increase the capacity per block, to lessen the declination between
16 blocks, and to ensure that the revised SMART Program will meet the Governor's stated goal of
17 10 GW of solar by 2030 (and subsequent goals to be established).

18 E. Instruct DOER to conduct a review of the SMART program every 2 years to ensure
19 that it is on track to drive solar installations to or beyond established goals, and to address known
20 issues.

21 F. Instruct DOER to eliminate the Critical Natural Landscapes restriction from the
22 BioMap 2 language and exclusions to SMART program participation.

23 G. Eliminate the cap on the state investment tax credit for residential installations, and
24 make it refundable.

25 H. Allow manual reporting for new systems under 60 KW

26 I. Instruct the Grid Modernization Advisory Council (GMAC) to permit the utilities to
27 recover any grid modernization costs determined by the GMAC to be reasonable and prudent in
28 order to create adequate capacity to interconnect 10 GW of new Solar by 2030;

29 J. Establish annual storage (without pairing with solar) goals to meet the Governors 2030
30 storage target goals, including net metering for mobile and stationary storage systems;

31 K. Enable the DOER to fund the CEC to establish a new solar loan program as a part of
32 the Governor's
33 proposed Green Bank;

34 L. Enable legislation to require the DOER to establish a separate solar and storage
35 program in Municipal Light Plant cities and towns (MLPs) to be funded through general
36 revenues of the Commonwealth or through a surtax on those Cities and Towns that opt into this
37 program.