HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 1170 FILED ON: 1/18/2023

HOUSE . . . . . No. 41

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul A. Schmid III

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 proposal for constitutional amendment:

Proposal for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to agricultural and horticultural lands.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
Paul A. Schmid III	*8th Bristol*	*1/18/2023*
Natalie M. Blais	*1st Franklin*	*2/1/2023*
Susannah M. Whipps	*2nd Franklin*	*2/1/2023*
Susan Williams Gifford	*2nd Plymouth*	*2/1/2023*
Lindsay N. Sabadosa	*1st Hampshire*	*2/1/2023*
James C. Arena-DeRosa	*8th Middlesex*	*2/1/2023*
Patricia A. Duffy	*5th Hampden*	*2/1/2023*
Hannah Kane	*11th Worcester*	*2/1/2023*
Michael P. Kushmerek	*3rd Worcester*	*2/1/2023*
David F. DeCoste	*5th Plymouth*	*2/10/2023*
Anne M. Gobi	*Worcester and Hampshire*	*2/10/2023*
Jon Santiago	*9th Suffolk*	*2/10/2023*
Carol A. Doherty	*3rd Bristol*	*2/10/2023*
Daniel M. Donahue	*16th Worcester*	*2/10/2023*
Paul McMurtry	*11th Norfolk*	*2/10/2023*
Vanna Howard	*17th Middlesex*	*2/27/2023*

Erika Uyterhoeven	*27th Middlesex*	*2/27/2023*
James B. Eldridge	*Middlesex and Worcester*	*2/27/2023*
Joanne M. Comerford	*Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester*	*2/27/2023*
Samantha Montaño	*15th Suffolk*	*2/27/2023*
Patrick Joseph Kearney	*4th Plymouth*	*3/28/2023*
Natalie M. Higgins	*4th Worcester*	*3/28/2023*
Marcus S. Vaughn	*9th Norfolk*	*4/13/2023*

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HOUSE . . . . . No. 41

By Representative Schmid of Westport, a petition (accompanied by proposal for constitutional amendment, House, No. 41) of Paul A. Schmid, III and others for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to agricultural and horticultural lands. Revenue.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

Proposal for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to agricultural and horticultural lands.

A majority of all the members elected to the Senate and House of Representatives, in joint session, hereby declares it to be expedient to alter the Constitution by the adoption of the following Article of Amendment, to the end that it may become a part of the Constitution [if similarly agreed to in a joint session of the next General Court and approved by the people at the state election next following]:

ARTICLE OF AMENDMENT.

Article XCIX of the Amendments to the Constitution is hereby annulled, and the following is adopted in place thereof:-

Article XCIX. Full power and authority are hereby given and granted to the general court to prescribe, for the purpose of developing and conserving agricultural or horticultural lands, that such lands may be valued, for the purpose of taxation, according to their agricultural or horticultural uses; provided, however, that a parcel of land may be valued at less than fair market value under this article if the parcel has been actively devoted to agricultural or horticultural uses for the 2 years preceding the tax year and (1) if the parcel is located in a municipality with a

population of less than 50,000 and is 2 acres or more in area; or (2) if the parcel is located in a municipality with a population of 50,000 or more and is ¼ acre or mores in area.