

SENATE No. 992

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Anne M. Gobi, (BY REQUEST)

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 placing a moratorium on slaughterhouse infrastructure.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Jill Woodworth

SENATE No. 992

By Ms. Gobi (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 992) of Jill Woodworth for legislation to place a moratorium on slaughterhouse infrastructure. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act placing a moratorium on slaughterhouse infrastructure.

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. Chapter 164 of the General Laws as so appearing in the 2022 Official
2 Edition is hereby amended by inserting after section 148 the following section-:

3 Section 149. (a) As used in this section, the following words shall have the following
4 meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

5 “Slaughterhouse” a facility where the slaughtering of meat from animals, including
6 chickens, turkeys, pigs, cattle, ducks, sheep, and other animals, takes place and that has annual
7 revenues of thirty thousand dollars or more.

8 (b) Notwithstanding any other law and beginning January 1, 2024, slaughterhouses shall
9 not commence nor expand operations. This section does not prohibit a person from completing
10 construction of a slaughterhouse if the person had begun the construction, or expansion, before
11 January 1, 2023.

12 Any person that violates this chapter is civilly liable for a penalty in an amount not to
13 exceed a sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per violation per day. If, after examination of a
14 complaint by the secretary or a member of the public and of the evidence, the Attorney General
15 believes a violation of this chapter has occurred, the Attorney General shall bring an action for
16 civil penalties or an injunction in the name of the people of this state in a court of competent
17 jurisdiction against any person violating this chapter. If, acting upon the Attorney General's own
18 initiative, the Attorney General believes a violation of this chapter has occurred, the Attorney
19 General may bring an action for civil penalties or an injunction in the name of the people of this
20 state in a court of competent jurisdiction against any person violating this chapter.