

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2331**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

*Aaron L. Saunders*

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*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 allowing municipalities to reasonably regulate solar siting.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Aaron L. Saunders</i>	<i>7th Hampden</i>	<i>1/16/2025</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2331**

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By Representative Saunders of Belchertown, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2331) of Aaron L. Saunders relative to zoning ordinances for the regulation of the installation of solar energy systems. Municipalities and Regional Government.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)**  
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An Act allowing municipalities to reasonably regulate solar siting.

*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 3 of chapter 40A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition,  
2 is hereby amended by striking out the ninth paragraph, in lines 123 to 126, inclusive, and  
3 inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

4           No zoning ordinance or by-law shall prohibit or unreasonably regulate the installation of  
5 solar energy systems or the building of structures that facilitate the collection of solar energy for  
6 residential purposes except where necessary to protect the public health, safety or welfare.  
7 Commercial, governmental, and non-residential solar energy structures and systems may be  
8 reasonably regulated for purposes of (i) protecting public health, safety and welfare; (ii)  
9 preserving forested lands, agricultural lands, or wetlands; or (iii) ensuring compatibility with  
10 municipal zoning.