

HOUSE No. 925

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael S. Day

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 increase access to recycling.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Michael S. Day</i>	<i>31st Middlesex</i>	<i>1/17/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 925

By Representative Day of Stoneham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 925) of Michael S. Day for legislation to increase access to recycling in the Commonwealth. Environment and Natural Resources.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 780 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act to increase access to recycling.

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 2 of Chapter 21H of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition,
2 is amended by inserting after the definition of "Qualified Lamp Recycler" the following 5
3 definitions:-

4 "Recyclable" or "Recyclable Material," is a material that has the potential to be recycled
5 and which is pre-sorted. Such materials shall include but are not limited to: 1) containers, films
6 and wraps made from metal, glass, plastic or paper and 2) newspaper, office paper, cardboard
7 and other grades of paper. Recyclable material includes biodegradable paper, but does not
8 include organic materials that will be composted or converted or construction and demolition
9 waste unless it has been separated and kept separate into at least the following categories:

10 asphalt, brick and concrete; ceiling tiles; wood; metals; plaster and wallboard; roofing materials;
11 and carpet.

12 “Recycle” or “Recycling,” is to recover materials or by-products which are: reused, used
13 as an ingredient or a feedstock in an industrial or manufacturing process to make a marketable
14 product: or used in a particular function or application as an effective substitute for a commercial
15 product or commodity; provided, however, that “recycle” or “recycling” does not mean to
16 recover energy from the combustion of material or to create fuel, composting or conversion.

17 "Restricted Material" is any material subject to a waste restriction at a solid waste
18 management facility pursuant to 310 CMR 19.017(3).

19 "Post-consumer Recyclables" is the following materials which have served their intended
20 end use and have been pre-sorted: containers, films and wraps and other forms of packaging
21 made from metal, glass, plastic or paper; and newspaper, office paper, cardboard and other
22 grades of paper.

23 “Transport” means the movement, by vessel or carrier, of solid waste from the point of
24 generation to ultimate disposal, or any intermediate point for storage, reuse, treatment, or
25 recycling.

26 Chapter 21H of the General Law is hereby amended by inserting the following section
27 after Section 8.

28 SECTION 9: In order to reduce solid waste and its associated management and disposal
29 costs, protect the environment and provide citizens increased access to recycling, all cities and
30 towns in the Commonwealth providing curbside waste removal are required to also provide

31 curbside pickup of recyclable material. All cities and towns in the Commonwealth providing a
32 site or facility for waste drop-off are required to offer recycling at that site or facility.

33 All materials set aside for recycling or placed in recycling containers shall be delivered to
34 recycling facilities. No person who transports solid waste shall knowingly mix recyclable
35 materials with solid waste destined for a solid waste transfer station or disposal facility. No
36 person who transports solid waste shall knowingly transport recyclable materials, whether mixed
37 with solid waste or pre-sorted, to a solid waste disposal facility or to a solid waste transfer
38 station.

39 All persons providing solid waste collection services in the Commonwealth of
40 Massachusetts shall also provide: single stream or dual stream recycling collection services to all
41 of their Massachusetts single-family and multi-family residential customers and all of their
42 commercial customers, including delivery of a container or containers for the purpose of storage
43 and collection of recyclables that is adequately sized for the customer's use such that recycling is
44 encouraged and disposal of recyclables is discouraged. The recyclables collection service shall
45 be provided at a frequency of not less than once every other week.