

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 961**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Kenneth I. Gordon***

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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 relative to the Office of the State Climatologist.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>	<i>1/14/2025</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 961**

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By Representative Gordon of Bedford, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 961) of Kenneth I. Gordon relative to the office of the state climatologist within the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. Environment and Natural Resources.

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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 relative to the Office of the State Climatologist.

*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 21A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official  
2 Edition, is hereby amended by striking section 24 and inserting in the place thereof the following  
3 section:-

4           Section 24. There shall be an office of the state climatologist which shall be independent  
5 of the executive office and under the supervision and control of a state climatologist to be  
6 appointed by the secretary. The office of the state climatologist shall be housed by the University  
7 of Massachusetts system and shall: (i) gather and analyze data on climate conditions in the  
8 commonwealth; (ii) conduct and foster research concerning the climate in the commonwealth  
9 and look for opportunities for sponsored research concerning climate issues in the  
10 commonwealth; (iii) coordinate with the National Centers for Environmental Information and the  
11 Northeast Regional Climate Center both of the United States Department of Commerce/National  
12 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Northeast Regional Climate Adaptation Science

13 Center of the United States Department of the Interior, and the Northeast Climate Hub of the  
14 United States Department of Agriculture; and (iv) educate and inform the public on matters  
15 related to the climate. The office of the state climatologist shall advise branches of state and local  
16 government concerning the climate in the commonwealth and its implications for both economic  
17 and scientific needs in conjunction with existing and future environmental factors relating to the  
18 climate in the commonwealth. The office of the state climatologist shall maintain a liaison with  
19 state, academic, and scientific institutions and join federal and international climate interest  
20 groups. The state climatologist shall serve for a term of 5 years but may be reappointed. The  
21 office of the state climatologist shall be funded by the executive office.