

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 978**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Patrick Joseph Kearney***

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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 to protect open space, historical resources, and community housing from coastal threats.

\_\_\_\_\_

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Patrick Joseph Kearney</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/7/2025</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 978**

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By Representative Kearney of Scituate, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 978) of Patrick Joseph Kearney for legislation to protect open space, historical resources, and community housing from coastal threats. Environment and Natural Resources.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 838 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)**  
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An Act to protect open space, historical resources, and community housing from coastal threats.

*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 44B, as appearing in 2020 Official Edition, is hereby amended by  
2 striking out the definition "preservation" in line 66 and inserting in place thereof the following  
3 definition:-

4 "Preservation", protection of personal or real property from injury, harm or destruction,  
5 including but not limited to the construction, alteration, or rehabilitation of beaches, dunes,  
6 seawalls, and other coastal infrastructure for the purpose of protecting open space, historical  
7 resources, or community housing from flooding, sea-level rise, and storm surge.