

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Andres X. Vargas*

*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 Promoting microbusiness and small business assistance transparency.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Andres X. Vargas</i>	<i>3rd Essex</i>	<i>1/16/2025</i>

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

[Pin Slip]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act Promoting microbusiness and small business assistance transparency.

*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. Section 48(c) of chapter 23G of the General Laws, is hereby amended by  
2 inserting after the words “women-owned businesses” the following:-

3 The agency shall collect and report aggregate and anonymized data regarding the  
4 programs delivered by its growth capital division at each meeting of its board of directors, on its  
5 website, and in an annual report to be submitted by the agency to the chairs of the joint  
6 committee on ways and means and the joint committee on economic development and emerging  
7 technologies no later than 90 days after the close of each fiscal year. The report shall include, but  
8 not be limited to, jobs created or saved, the amounts and percent of capital distributed to  
9 businesses by the revenue, profits, number of employees, geographic location, industry,  
10 ownership demographics, and other relevant data requested by legislators or stakeholders or  
11 otherwise tracked by the agency.

12 SECTION 2. Section 48 of chapter 23G of the General Laws, is hereby amended by  
13 inserting after the words “women-owned businesses” the following subsection:-

14 (i) The agency shall design and implement equity goals across all divisions and  
15 departments, including prioritizing socially or economically disadvantaged businesses, which  
16 may include, but shall not be limited to, minority-owned, women-owned, veteran-owned or  
17 immigrant-owned microbusinesses and small businesses, that have historically faced obstacles to  
18 accessing capital by mandating that any new or changed agency serving microbusinesses or  
19 small businesses prioritize such businesses in their programs whenever feasible, among other  
20 goals designed through stakeholder engagement. The agency shall publish its goals and all  
21 relevant, anonymous data related to those goals on its website and in its annual report to the  
22 chairs of the joint committee on ways and means and the joint committee on economic  
23 development and emerging technologies.

24 SECTION 3. Chapter 23A of the General Laws, is hereby amended by adding the  
25 following section:-

26 Section 70. Data transparency and accessibility

27 (a) The executive office of economic development shall design and implement equity  
28 goals across all divisions and departments, including prioritizing socially or economically  
29 disadvantaged businesses, which may include, but shall not be limited to, minority-owned,  
30 women-owned, veteran-owned or immigrant-owned microbusinesses and small businesses, that  
31 have historically faced obstacles to accessing capital by mandating that any new or changed  
32 agency serving microbusinesses or small businesses prioritize such businesses in their programs  
33 whenever feasible, among other goals designed through stakeholder engagement. The agency  
34 shall publish its goals and all relevant, anonymous data related to those goals on its website and

35 in an annual report to the chairs of the joint committee on ways and means and the joint  
36 committee on economic development and emerging technologies.

37 (b) The executive office of economic development shall regularly collect and report  
38 aggregate and anonymized data and information related to all grant, loan, and other financial and  
39 technical assistance programs provided across all divisions on its website, including but not  
40 limited to geographic distribution, jobs created or saved, demographics of business owners  
41 served, number of employees, annual revenue ranges, business types, and distribution amounts,  
42 and percentages, provided further that the secretary of economic development shall submit an  
43 annual report to the joint committee on economic development and small business with this data  
44 within 90 days of the end of the fiscal year.