

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Michelle M. DuBois***

*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 limiting toxics release inventory facilities in environmental justice communities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/17/2025</i>

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

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 789 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act limiting toxics release inventory facilities in environmental justice communities.

*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 30 of the General Laws, as so appearing in the 2020 official  
2 edition, is hereby amended by inserting the following sections:-

3 Section 62J. As used in this section and in section 62K, the following definitions shall  
4 apply, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

5 "Equal Protection," that no group of people, because of race, ethnicity, class, gender,  
6 gender identity, or handicap bears an unfair share of environmental pollution from industrial,  
7 commercial, state and municipal operations or have limited access to natural resources, including  
8 waterfronts, parks and open space, and water resources.

9 "Executive Office of EEA," the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.

10 "Lacking English Language Proficiency" refers to households that, according to federal  
11 census forms, do not have an adult proficient in English.

12 "Environmental justice population," as defined in the Acts of 2021, section 56, chapter 8.

13 "Secretary of EEA," the Secretary for Energy and Environmental Affairs.

14 "Toxics Release Inventory," the Toxics Release Inventory and Toxics Release Inventory  
15 Program of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

16 "TRI Facility," any industrial or commercial facility subject to the regulations, policies,  
17 or reporting requirements of the Toxics Release Inventory Program of the United States  
18 Environmental Protection Agency or comparable laws or regulations of the Commonwealth for  
19 the management and control of pollutants or toxins that pose a significant risk to public health or  
20 the environment.

21 Section 62K. The Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
22 shall direct each Department, Board, or other agency or program in the Secretariat with  
23 jurisdiction over the permitting of any TRI Facility to issue recommendations for ways to  
24 substantially decrease the further siting or expansion of TRI Facilities within Environmental  
25 Justice Populations neighborhoods. This action shall be undertaken by the Secretary of EEA no  
26 later than 30 days after the bill's passage.

27 By no later than 180 days after the effective date of this Act, the Secretary of EEA shall  
28 initiate a rule-making process that shall establish a cap on the total number of TRI Facilities that  
29 may be sited or expanded within any Environmental Justice Population neighborhood. That rule-  
30 making process shall prioritize and give substantial weight to achieving a substantial reduction of

31 the risk of the exposure of residents of the neighborhood to toxins listed in the TRI Inventory and  
32 shall prioritize and give substantial weight to providing and preserving the access of the residents  
33 of the neighborhood to a clean and healthful environment regardless of race, income, national  
34 origin or English language proficiency.