

SENATE No. 297

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

William J. Driscoll, Jr.

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 gateway municipalities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

William J. Driscoll, Jr.

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Norfolk, Plymouth and Bristol

SENATE No. 297

By Mr. Driscoll, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 297) of William J. Driscoll, Jr. for legislation to define gateway municipalities. Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to gateway municipalities.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 23A, Section 3A is hereby amended by striking the definition of “gateway
2 municipality” and replacing it with the following definition:

3 “gateway municipality”, a municipality that satisfies three of the following criteria: (1) a
4 population of 35,000 or greater, but less than 250,000; (2) a median household income below the
5 commonwealth’s average; (3) a rate of educational attainment of a bachelor’s degree or above
6 that is below the commonwealth’s average; (4) a minority population of 40 per cent or higher,
7 and; (5) 15 percent or more of households identify as speaking English less than “very well.” The
8 secretary of economic development shall certify which municipalities qualify as a Gateway
9 municipality after each decennial census or for an individual municipality upon request by the
10 city council, selectboard, or other legislative body of a given municipality.”