

SENATE No. 626

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jason M. Lewis, (BY REQUEST)

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 consider adoption of aspects of the German Green Dot Waste Reduction Standards.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Vincent Dixon

SENATE No. 626

By Mr. Lewis (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 626) of Vincent Dixon, for legislation to consider adoption of aspects of the German Green Dot Waste Reduction Standards. Environment and Natural Resources.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 522 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to consider adoption of aspects of the German Green Dot Waste Reduction Standards.

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 I – LEGISLATIVE PURPOSE

2 The Massachusetts General Laws are hereby amended by inserting the following new
3 chapter:

4 An Act to Consider Adoption of Particular Waste Reduction Standards (PWRS).

5 PURPOSE – It is significant to the general, and specific, public health of the residents,
6 businesses, and other enterprises that live, and operate in The Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
7 that there are various problems arising from, the creation of various forms of waste, and distinct
8 constraints on the disposal of waste, and trash of various kinds. This is especially true in
9 congested, urban areas, but also has known, and unknown, effects on the general environment,

10 whether watersheds, air, wetlands, useful lands of all kinds, and oceans. In recent years, this
11 situation has become more severe, and these are a series of problems that can be addressed in
12 various ways.

13 SECTION II – ANALYSIS

14 1.) In dealing with various forms of waste processing, demand side reduction can, and
15 must be, an important part of overall waste management policies.

16 2.) While recycling is valuable, the reduction of packaging waste, by improved packaging
17 design, and direct conceptual design elements, by manufacturers, and delivery services, can be
18 effective, as part of a broader set of policies.

19 3.) The provisions of this statute, are adopted, for the purposes of consistency, of
20 manufacturing, retail, and other commercial activities, and transactions, across the
21 Commonwealth. They recognize that while local ordinances have value, that there should be a
22 degree of consistency, actions, and improved recommendations, therefore, for environmentally
23 friendly policies, across the entire Commonwealth.

24 4.) This statute authorizes relevant state authorities to consider, and adopt Particular
25 Waste Reduction Standards (PWRS); through Regulatory Processes, that may include financial
26 incentives, and other mechanisms, for businesses to design product packaging, and mailing
27 materials, that reduce the amount of materials in their packages, while maintaining the safety of
28 products that are sent, and/or delivered.

29 SECTION III – ADDITIONAL COOPERATIVE AUTHORITIES

30 Various provisions of this statute, and additional proposed regulations, may be utilized, at
31 the discretion of local municipal, legislative, and/or executive authorities.