

# SENATE . . . . . No. 983

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*James B. Eldridge*

*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 promote housing cooperatives.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>6/11/2025</i>

# SENATE . . . . . No. 983

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By Mr. Eldridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 983) of James B. Eldridge for legislation to promote housing cooperatives. Housing.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 871 OF 2023-2024.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to promote housing cooperatives.

*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 40H of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the  
2 following section:-

3           Section 10.

4           There is hereby established a Massachusetts center for housing cooperatives within the  
5 executive office of housing and livable communities. The Massachusetts center for housing  
6 cooperatives shall provide education, conduct outreach and promote efforts to create an overall  
7 environment in the commonwealth to: (i) expand and enhance cooperative resident ownership;  
8 (ii) preserve the existing and increase the number of cooperatively owned properties; (iii)  
9 publicize and promote the benefits of resident cooperative housing to policy makers and the  
10 general public; (iv) encourage collaborative outreach efforts regarding involvement and

cooperative housing ownership; (v) research and evaluate cooperative housing ownership in the commonwealth; (vi) showcase cooperative housing initiatives in the commonwealth; (vii) facilitate and coordinate the sharing of existing information and resources; and (viii) provide grants pursuant to this chapter. The Massachusetts center for housing cooperatives within the executive office of housing and livable communities shall focus its efforts to promote housing cooperatives for low to moderate income people in the commonwealth.

(1) The director of the Massachusetts center for housing cooperatives shall have the power to hire staff, appoint any specific committee or task force and contract with consultants, agents or advisors deemed necessary to further the purposes of this section.

(2) The director may accept gifts or grants of money or property from any source to further the work of the center; provided, however, that any money received shall be deposited with the state treasurer to be kept in a separate fund in the treasury to be named the Massachusetts Center for Housing Cooperatives Fund dedicated to the center and for expenditure without appropriation by the director of the center in accordance with the conditions of such a gift or grant. Amounts remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund and shall be available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years.

(3) The director shall issue rules, regulations and procedures governing the application for and delivery of services which are deemed necessary for the proper performance of the duties of the center.

(4) Annually, the director shall file a report with the clerks of the house of representatives and senate, including an inventory of housing cooperatives in the state and the specific activities

32 taken by the center to support and promote the transition of traditionally structured properties to  
33 a cooperative resident ownership model.

34 (5) The director shall be a full-time employee of the executive office of housing and  
35 livable communities and shall be appointed by and report directly to the the secretary of the  
36 executive office of housing and livable communities.

37 SECTION 2. The commonwealth shall appropriate \$100,000,000 in fiscal year 2026 for a  
38 reserve to promote housing cooperatives throughout the commonwealth for low to moderate  
39 income people, including, but not limited to acquiring real estate to establish housing  
40 cooperatives, preserving, rehabilitating and satisfying the capital needs of existing cooperatives  
41 through programs administered by the department of housing and community development  
42 directly or through 1 or more of the following: (i) Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency; (ii)  
43 Massachusetts Housing Partnership; (iii) Community Economic Development Assistance  
44 Corporation; and (iv) ROC USA Capital provided further, that within 180 days of the effective  
45 date of this Act, the department shall submit a report to the house and senate committees on ways  
46 and means and the joint committee on economic development and emerging technologies on  
47 recommendations for creating and preserving housing cooperatives throughout the  
48 commonwealth.