

**SENATE . . . . . No.**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Paul W. Mark*

*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 transformative development initiatives in rural communities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Paul W. Mark*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Berkshire, Hampden, Franklin and  
Hampshire*

**SENATE . . . . . No.**

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 889 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act relative to transformative development initiatives in rural 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 6A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition,  
2 is hereby amended by adding the following subsection in Section 16G:-

3 (o.)The secretary of housing and economic development shall, in consultation with the  
4 Rural Policy Advisory Commission, establish a rural development initiative to be administered  
5 by the executive office through a contract with the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency  
6 established by section 2 of chapter 23G. The initiative will provide technical assistance to  
7 identify and implement strategies that will spur direct investment in rural communities to create  
8 jobs and expand businesses, identify cross-sector partnerships, accelerate the engagement of  
9 community members in actionable planning, and implement local economic development  
10 initiatives.