

Joint Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries

Bill Summary

Bill Number:	H.141
Title:	An Act prohibiting the purchase of farm land by foreign governments
Sponsor:	Representative Vaughn of Wrentham
Cosponsors:	Representative Gaskey of Carver
Hearing Date:	Tuesday, September 16, 2025 at 10:00 PM - 01:00 PM, B-1
Reporting Date:	Saturday, November 15th, 2025
Similar Matters:	None

Prior History

New file; No prior history

Current Law

Chapter 184 of the Massachusetts General Laws addresses real property law.

Summary

This bill provides definitions for “agricultural land,” “controlling interest,” “department,” “foreign government,” and “interest.” This bill prevents a foreign government from purchasing, acquiring, leasing, or holding any interest in agricultural land that is within a 20-mile radius of a US military base. This will not apply to land held by a foreign government before June 1, 2025, or federally recognized tribal governments.

The bill directs the Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) to compile an annual report to measure the amount of farmland owned by foreign owners or governments, measure the percent change in foreign ownership for the past 10 years, record what purpose the land is being used for, and record any recent changes in foreign ownership of energy production, storage and distribution facilities.