HOUSE DOCKET, NO. FILED ON: 1/14/2009

**HOUSE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . No.**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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PRESENTED BY:

**William N. Brownsberger**

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*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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act incorprating the Commonwealth's sustainable development principles into the policies of executive and quasi-public agencies.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

PETITION OF:

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| --- | --- |
| Name: | District/Address: |
| William N. Brownsberger | 24th Middlesex |

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the Year Two Thousand and Nine**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

An Act incorporating the Commonwealth's sustainable development principles into the policies of executive and quasi-public agencies.

*Whereas*, The deferred operation for this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is forthwith to make to encourage the coordination and cooperation of all agencies, invest public funds wisely in smart growth and equitable development, and give priority to investments that will deliver good jobs and good wages, transit access, housing and open space,, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

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

 SECTION 1. As used in this section the following words shall have the following meaning unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

“Executive Agencies” shall include, without limitation, all agencies within the Executive branch of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

“Independent Agencies,” shall include, without limitation: the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority; the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority; the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative; the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority; the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority; the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency; the Massachusetts Health and Educational Facilities Authority; the Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency; the Massachusetts Housing Partnership Fund; the Massachusetts Port Authority, and the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

“Sustainable Development Principles” shall mean the following principles adopted by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts: concentrate development and mix uses; advance equity; make efficient decisions; protect land and ecosystems; use natural resources wisely; expand housing opportunities; provide transportation choice; increase job and business opportunities; promote clean energy; and plan regionally.

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any language to the contrary, the enabling statutes of Executive Agencies and Independent Agencies are hereby amended to include the following language:

In carrying out its duties, including establishing priorities for capital expenditures, developing new funding programs, expanding geographic boundaries, or adopting program regulations or guidelines, the agency shall take all feasible steps to conform with the Commonwealth’s Sustainable Development Principles.