

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2819**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Daniel Cahill*

*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 energy production through waste reduction.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Daniel Cahill*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*10th Essex*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2819**

By Mr. Cahill of Lynn, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2819) of Daniel Cahill relative to energy production through waste reduction. Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**

An Act relative to energy production through waste reduction.

*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. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the  
2 contrary, the Department of Energy Resources is hereby directed and authorized to conduct a  
3 comprehensive study to investigate the impacts of waste-to-energy facilities on electric  
4 generation and emissions in Massachusetts. Said study shall include, but not be limited to, (a) the  
5 levels of greenhouse gas emissions produced by Massachusetts waste under the current waste  
6 management system, (b) the levels of greenhouse gas emissions that would be produced by  
7 Massachusetts waste if the state had 50% more waste to energy facilities, (c) the levels of  
8 greenhouse gas emissions that would be produced by Massachusetts waste if the state had 75%  
9 more waste to energy facilities, and (d) the levels of greenhouse gas emissions that would be  
10 produced by Massachusetts waste if the state had 50% more/twice as many waste to energy  
11 facilities. The Department shall provide an opportunity for interested parties to submit relevant  
12 testimony. The Department shall file a report of its study, including recommendations and drafts  
13 of any legislation, if necessary, with the clerks of the House of Representatives and Senate and

14 with the House and Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and  
15 Energy within one year of the effective date of this act.

16 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the  
17 contrary, the Department of Energy Resources is hereby directed and authorized to conduct a  
18 comprehensive study to investigate the electric generation and environmental impacts of  
19 modifying the moratorium on municipal solid waste combustion facilities to allow for converting  
20 municipal solid waste to energy for fuel in municipal solid waste combustion facilities that 220  
21 megawatt hours per day and shall have the capability to process no more than a maximum of 400  
22 tons of solid waste per day and (b) the municipal solid waste combustion facility shall accept and  
23 process waste from no more than 15 miles away.

24 SECTION 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the  
25 contrary, The Department of Environmental Protection shall promulgate further regulations to  
26 the Commercial Food Material Disposal Ban in order to ban the disposal of commercial organic  
27 wastes by businesses and institutions that dispose of 1,000 pounds or more of these materials per  
28 day. The Department shall promulgate regulations establishing a gradual schedule during which  
29 the amount of commercial organic wastes that a business or institution is allowed to dispose of  
30 decreases from the current one ton to the proposed 1,000 pounds per week.