

HOUSE No. 3545

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Susannah M. Whipps

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 establishing a cannabis and hemp cultivation research center at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>Sarah K. Peake</i>	<i>4th Barnstable</i>
<i>Stephan Hay</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>David T. Vieira</i>	<i>3rd Barnstable</i>

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By Ms. Whipps of Athol, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3545) of Susannah M. Whipps and others relative to establishing a cannabis and hemp cultivation research center at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Marijuana Policy.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act establishing a cannabis and hemp cultivation research center at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

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

1 Chapter 128 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:

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3 124. The University of Massachusetts, Amherst, shall establish a Cannabis and Hemp
4 Cultivation Research Center. The center shall provide technical support, practical solutions and
5 public advocacy on behalf the burgeoning hemp and marijuana industries in surmounting
6 technical challenges as well as regulatory impediments to hemp operations.

7 A. The Center shall facilitate public outreach and dialogue forums in Eastern and
8 Western Massachusetts regarding emerging issues for cultivators of cannabis and hemp,
9 including, but not limited to, strategies for preventing cross-pollination conflicts between
10 outdoor grown industrial hemp and marijuana crops, assessment of regionally appropriate

11 cultivars, and alternative mechanisms for confirming that THC levels in hemp cultivation are
12 compliant with federal and state requirements.

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14 B. The Center shall establish an advisory committee of hemp and cannabis farmers to aid
15 in the assessment of the emerging issues.

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17 C. Within one year of its establishment, the Center shall issue a report, based on review
18 of field experience in the Commonwealth, as well as policy developments in other states,
19 identifying challenges, practical solutions and public policy recommendations to promote
20 sustainable cultivation.

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