

HOUSE No. 3145

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Peter v. Kocot

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 Relative to the Connecticut River Rowing Facility.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Peter v. Kocot

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

1st Hampshire

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE CONNECTICUT RIVER ROWING FACILITY.

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 Chapter 29 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 2JJJ the
2 following section:-

3 Section 2KKL. There shall be established and set up on the books of the
4 commonwealth a separate fund to be known as the Connecticut River Boathouse
5 and Rowing Facility Construction Fund, the funds of which shall be expended
6 by the office of travel and tourism to develop a public rowing and regatta
7 center on the Connecticut River. Said department shall establish a memorandum
8 of understanding with the city of Northampton, adjacent communities,
9 Northampton Youth and Community Rowing, Inc., and public and private
10 institutions and organizations to establish a governing body to oversee its
11 operations, to lease portions of the facility to appropriate users and to
12 promote youth and adult rowing teams and events for all ages, provided, that
13 the operational costs of said facility shall be not be paid by the
14 Commonwealth.

15 The Connecticut River Boathouse and Rowing Facility Construction Fund shall
16 receive monies from: (1) gifts, grants, appropriations and donations from
17 public or private sources; (2) federal reimbursements and grants-in-aid; (3)
18 any interest earned from the fund; and (4) the proceeds of special obligation
19 bond sales by the commonwealth, denoted as the Connecticut River Boathouse
20 and Rowing Facility Construction Loan Act of 2009. The state treasurer shall
21 receive, deposit and invest funds held in such a manner as to ensure the
22 highest interest rate available consistent with the safety of the fund. The
23 books and records of the fund shall be subject to an annual audit by the
24 state auditor. The office of travel and tourism may expend such funds, in
25 addition to appropriation, and no expenditure from the fund shall cause it to
26 be in deficiency at the close of a fiscal year. Said office shall report
27 annually to the house and senate committees on ways and means on income
28 received into the fund and the sources of that income, any expenditure from
29 the fund and their purposes and fund balances.

30 SECTION 2. To meet a portion of the expenditures necessary in carrying out
31 the provisions of section 2KKL of chapter 29 of the General Laws, the state
32 treasurer shall, upon request of the governor, issue and sell bonds of the
33 commonwealth in an amount to be specified by the governor from time to time,
34 but not exceeding in the aggregate the sum of \$15,000,000 to be in addition
35 to those bonds previously authorized and which authorizations remain

36 uncommitted or unobligated on the effective date of this act. All bonds
37 issued by the commonwealth as aforesaid shall be designated on their face,
38 Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the office of travel and tourism
39 Connecticut River Boathouse and Rowing Facility Loan Act of 2009, and shall
40 be issued for a maximum term of years, not exceeding 20 years, as the
41 governor may recommend to the general court pursuant to Section 3 of Article
42 LXII of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth; provided,
43 however, that all such bonds shall be payable not later than June 30, 2029.
44 All interest and payments on account of principal of such obligations shall
45 be payable from the General Fund. Bonds and interest thereon issued under
46 the authority of this section shall be general obligations of the
47 commonwealth. "