

HOUSE No. 711

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

An Act establishing a regional dredge grants program..

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 52 of chapter 88 of the Acts of 1997 is hereby amended by striking out, in line
2 48, the word “and”; and by inserting, in line 54, after the words “not to exceed \$25,000”, the
3 following:— and provided further, that the department is hereby authorized to establish a
4 program within the office of waterways for the purpose of administering grants to one or more
5 regional entities for the purchase of dredges and associated capital equipment. Regional entities
6 shall mean any municipality, associations of municipalities, or other entity deemed fiscally and
7 administratively qualified pursuant to regulations promulgated by the department. The regional
8 entity or regional entities receiving a grant pursuant to this section shall be responsible for
9 implementing a public harbor dredging program and shall be responsible for the operation and
10 maintenance of the dredge program, the establishment and scheduling of services, the
11 maintenance of books and records and for obtaining permits. The department shall provide to the
12 committee on natural resources, the house committee on ways and means, and the senate
13 committee on ways and means, no later than September 1 of each year in which grants are made,
14 a written report as to the nature and scope of grants made in the preceding 12 months. The

15 commissioner is authorized to make such rules and regulations as are necessary and appropriate
16 to establish and administer grants pursuant to this section. In no event, however, shall the
17 department be obligated to expend more than 2 million dollars for this purpose, which amount
18 shall be available for expenditure by the department through June 30, 2006.