

HOUSE No. 765

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

An Act Prohibiting Clear Cutting in State Forests and Parks..

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. Section 7 of Chapter 21a of the general Laws is hereby amended by
2 inserting at the end thereof the following:-“...provided, that the secretary shall prohibit the clear
3 cutting of any forested lands under his care and custody, unless necessary to eradicate harmful
4 and invasive insect species. For the purposes of this section, clear cutting shall be defined as the
5 harvesting of more than seventy-five percent of trees within an area and/or contiguous parcels
6 greater than one acre.”

7 SECTION 2. Section 40 of Chapter 132 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
8 inserting at the end thereof the following:-“...therefore, it is the policy of the Commonwealth to
9 prohibit clear cutting on all state owned lands and lands under the authority of all public and
10 quasi-public authorities, including, but not limited to the Massachusetts Water Resources
11 Authority, the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Division of Fisheries and
12 Wildlife and all municipal watershed properties with conservation protection easements
13 purchased by the commonwealth.”