

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 260**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Thomas M. Stanley*

*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 the conservation of Atlantic striped bass.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/18/2011</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 260**

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By Mr. Stanley of Waltham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 260) of Thomas M. Stanley that the advisory commission of the Division of Marine Fisheries adopt rules and regulations relative to the taking or possession of wild striped bass by recreational angling . Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
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An Act relative to the conservation of Atlantic striped bass.

*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 110A of chapter 130 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking the section in its entirety and inserting in place  
3 thereof the following sentences:- (a) Commercial harvesting and sale of wild striped bass shall be  
4 prohibited in the commonwealth.

5           The director, with the approval of the marine fisheries advisory commission, shall adopt  
6 rules and

7           regulations relative to the taking or possession of wild striped bass by recreational  
8 angling,

9           provided that in no instance shall any rule or regulation authorize the taking or possession  
10 of

11 striped bass which are less than 20 inches in length or greater than 26 inches total length  
12 but less

13 than 40 inches total length. It is unlawful to take or possess striped bass unless the fish  
14 are whole

15 with head on and are between 20 and 26 inches total length or 40 inches and greater total  
16 length. (b) It is unlawful to take or possess more than one (1) striped bass each day. (c) All  
17 aquaculture raised striped bass for sale in the commonwealth shall bear the tag of the grower

18 or distributor of the fish. (d) Whoever violates any rules or regulations made pursuant to  
19 this section shall be punished by a

20 fine of not less than two hundred dollars for each fish taken or possessed for the first  
21 violation,

22 five hundred dollars for each fish taken or possessed for the second violation and for each  
23 subsequent violation shall be fined one thousand dollars for each fish taken or possessed

24 or

25 imprisoned not more than sixty days or both. No part of any fine imposed for the taking

26 or

27 possession of any striped bass in violation of any such regulation shall be remitted. (e)

28 SECTION 2. The striped bass quota for commercial fishing provided to the Commonwealth of  
29 Massachusetts by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission shall not be added to  
30 recreational fishing quotas. Said quota shall be set aside for conservation and the Director of the  
31 Division of Marine Fisheries shall use his best efforts in working with the Commission to see

- 32 that the amount of this quota is not given to other states but remains the property of the
- 33 Commonwealth to be used for conservation of striped bass.