

SENATE No. 364

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Richard T. Moore

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 promoting the public health of citizens through the testing and labeling of Striped Bass.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Richard T. Moore

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

SENATE No. 364

By Mr. Moore, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 364) of Richard T. Moore for legislation to promote the public health of citizens through the testing and labeling of Striped Bass. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand Eleven
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An Act promoting the public health of citizens through the testing and labeling of 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. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
2 Office of Research and Standards shall conduct a long-term research program on contaminants in
3 Striped Bass. Contaminants to be looked for shall include but not be limited to mercury,
4 polychlorinated biphenyls, dioxin, mirex, dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane, chlordane and
5 dieldrin. The results of said research program shall be published annually and forwarded to the
6 Massachusetts Department of Public Health for the purpose of publishing warnings to the public
7 should levels of contaminants in the Striped Bass cause health concerns due to consumption of
8 the fish by pregnant women or the general population. The research program shall be conducted
9 as to have the maximum impact for the safety of the general population based around the
10 commercial and recreational Striped Bass fishing season in the Commonwealth. Should there
11 be a finding of elevated contaminants in Striped Bass by the Massachusetts Department of Public
12 Health, the Department shall direct the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries to institute a
13 labeling and notification program for Striped Bass caught commercially and sold for human

- 14 consumption in fish stores, fish markets and on the dock or wharf in Massachusetts as well as
- 15 other markets the fish are sold into.