

HOUSE No. 2686

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 resolve:

Resolve to study the loss of revenues of the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/16/2015</i>
<i>Shaunna L. O'Connell</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>	<i>1/31/2015</i>

HOUSE No. 2686

By Mr. Stanley of Waltham, a petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 2686) of Thomas M. Stanley and Shaunna L. O’Connell relative to studying the loss of revenue in the fishing industry of the Commonwealth. Revenue.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2747 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

Resolve to study the loss of revenues of the Commonwealth.

1 **Resolved**, Whereas the National Office of Science and Technology National Marine
2 Fisheries Office studies recreational fishing participation

3 And whereas a recent study of recreational fishing participation in Massachusetts showed
4 that 2011 recreational fishing participation had dropped from 1,258,124 individuals in 2006 to
5 897,115 in 2011 a 29% drop

6 And whereas out of state individual anglers had dropped from 484,288 in 2006 to
7 292,701 in 2011 a 40% drop

8 And whereas Southwick Associates did a study in 2005 estimating that the total
9 economic activity generated by recreational Striped Bass fishing in the Commonwealth in 2003
10 was \$1,158,000,000

11 And whereas using 2003 estimates by Southwick, a decline from 2006 to 2012 of 29% of
12 individual recreational fisherman would equal a loss of \$390,000,000 in economic activity for
13 the Commonwealth and a concurrent loss of hotel, motel, sales, meals, alcohol, gas and other
14 taxes and revenues to the Commonwealth

15 Therefore be it resolved by the Great and General Court of Massachusetts that the
16 Massachusetts Department of Revenue in conjunction with the House and Senate Joint
17 Committee on Revenue shall conduct a study of the decline of the recreational fishery with
18 particular emphasis on the Striped Bass and the concurrent impact on the revenues of the
19 Commonwealth

20 And be it further resolved that said study shall be completed by December 15, 2015 and
21 forwarded to the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries with recommendations to enhance
22 the revenue generating capacity of the recreational fishery