SENATE . . . . . No. 2230

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)

SENATE, Thursday, December 7, 2017

The committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture to whom was referred the petitions (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 414) of Viriato M. deMacedo for legislation relative to protecting, preserving, and increasing access to family camping; and (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 460) of Elizabeth A. Poirier and others that the Department of Environmental Protection be directed to revise regulations to protect and preserve the camping industry,- reports the accompanying bill (Senate, No. 2230).

For the committee,
Anne M. Gobi

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An Act relative to protecting, preserving, and increasing access to family camping.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the department of environmental protection, in consultation with the department of conservation and recreation, shall, within six months of the passage of this act, revise and promulgate rules and regulations to: increase access to camping by encouraging and facilitating the growth of Massachusetts campgrounds, while aiming to simultaneously protect public health, safety and the environment. The department shall revise regulations pertaining to septic flow, volume discharge, greywater, land size, and approved chemical additives to accurately reflect the circumstances associated with seasonal use campgrounds so as to not unnecessarily hinder campground expansion and user access. In revising and promulgating rules and regulations, the department shall consult with interest groups including, but not limited to the Massachusetts Association of Campground Owners and the Massachusetts Camping Association.