

HOUSE No. 858

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Christopher M. Markey

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 establishing a deer population control commission.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Christopher M. Markey</i>	<i>9th Bristol</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>
<i>Christopher Hendricks</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>	<i>1/23/2023</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>	<i>1/23/2023</i>
<i>Aaron L. Saunders</i>	<i>7th Hampden</i>	<i>1/25/2023</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/28/2023</i>
<i>Paul A. Schmid, III</i>	<i>8th Bristol</i>	<i>2/1/2023</i>
<i>Patrick Joseph Kearney</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/16/2023</i>
<i>David T. Vieira</i>	<i>3rd Barnstable</i>	<i>11/29/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 858

By Representative Markey of Dartmouth, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 858) of Christopher M. Markey and others for an investigation and study by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to deer population control. Environment and Natural Resources.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act establishing a deer population control commission.

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

1 Notwithstanding any general or special laws to the contrary, there shall be established a
2 commission called the deer population control commission, hereinafter referred to as the
3 commission, for the purpose of identifying best practices and methods for controlling the deer
4 population in Bristol, Plymouth, Barnstable, Berkshire, Hampden, Worcester, Franklin, and
5 Hampshire Counties.

6 The commission shall be made up of 8 members: 1 member of the Senate, whom shall be
7 appointed by the Senate President; 1 member of the House of Representatives, whom shall be
8 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; 1 member representing local Rod and
9 Gun Clubs, who shall be appointed by the Massachusetts Bow Hunters Association; 1 member
10 representing the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture, who shall be appointed by the
11 Secretary of the Department of Agricultural Resources; 1 member representing the
12 Massachusetts Department of Fish and Wildlife, who shall be appointed by the Commissioner of

13 the Department of Fish and Wildlife; 1 licensed automobile insurance broker representing the
14 insurance industry, who shall be appointed by the Massachusetts Association of Insurance
15 Agents.

16 The commission shall recommend best practices for controlling the Commonwealth's
17 deer population and methods for assisting farmers in preventing and combating property damage
18 caused by deer. The commission shall file its findings and recommendations, together with
19 drafts of legislation necessary to carry those recommendations into effect, with the Clerks of the
20 Senate and the House of Representatives, and the chairs of the Joint Committee on Environment,
21 Natural Resources and Agriculture no later than March 1, 2024.