

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 864**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Lenny Mirra*

*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 clean lakes and waterways in the commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Lenny Mirra</i>	<i>2nd Essex</i>	<i>1/11/2023</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 864**

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By Representative Mirra of Georgetown, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 864) of Lenny Mirra relative to establishing a special commission (including members of the General Court) to study and determine the maintenance and upkeep needs of lakes, ponds, streams and other public waterways. Environment and Natural Resources.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 957 OF 2021-2022.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act relative to clean lakes and waterways in the commonwealth.

*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. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, there is  
2 hereby established a special commission to study and determine the maintenance and upkeep  
3 needs of lakes, ponds, streams and other public waterways in the commonwealth. The  
4 commission shall review said public waterways through a standardized evaluation criteria  
5 established by the commission.

6           The commission shall consist of: the commissioner of the department of environmental  
7 protection, or their designee; the commissioner of the department of conservation and recreation  
8 or their designee; one member to be appointed by the Massachusetts water resources authority;  
9 one member to be appointed by the speaker of the house; one member to be appointed by the

10 minority leader of the house; one member to be appointed by the senate president; one member  
11 to be appointed by the senate minority leader; and two members to be appointed by the governor.

12           The commission shall file a report of its recommended regulations and its findings,  
13 together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry those recommendations into effect, by filing  
14 the same with the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives no later than one year  
15 after the passage of this act.