

HOUSE No. 896

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bruce J. Ayers

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 Long and Moon Islands in Boston Harbor.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Bruce J. Ayers</i>	<i>1st Norfolk</i>	<i>1/15/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 896

By Representative Ayers of Quincy, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 896) of Bruce J. Ayers relative to Long and Moon Islands in Boston Harbor. Environment and Natural Resources.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 743 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act relative to Long and Moon Islands in Boston Harbor.

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. Section 33 of chapter 92 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the fourth paragraph the following 2
3 paragraphs:-

4 The division shall, on Long island within Boston harbor, establish as land of the
5 commonwealth, the Long island reservation for the purposes of park land, passive recreational
6 use and the preservation of open space and conservation land to protect the coastal beaches,
7 palustrine wetlands, estuarine intertidal wetlands, marine intertidal wetlands and salt marsh, and
8 to provide a habitat for native oysters and other local shellfish. The reservation shall create an
9 accessible park for the public with ocean shoreline and shall remain listed in the state register of
10 historic places.

11 The division shall, on Moon island within Quincy bay, establish as land of the
12 commonwealth, the Moon island reservation for the purposes of park land, passive recreational
13 use and the preservation of open space and conservation land to protect the coastal beaches,
14 palustrine wetlands, estuarine intertidal wetlands, marine intertidal wetlands and salt marsh, and
15 to provide a habitat for native oysters and other local shellfish.

16 SECTION 2. Not later than June 30, 2027, the department of capital asset and
17 maintenance, on behalf of the division of state parks and recreation in the department of
18 conservation and recreation shall take in fee, pursuant to chapter 79 of the General Laws, the
19 land mass encompassing the islands known as Long island and Moon island in the city of
20 Boston; provided, however, that the department shall enter into leases for certain properties
21 currently used for recreational purposes and rehabilitative facilities. The lands shall be taken
22 pursuant to Article XCVII of the amendments to the Constitution for the public benefit of the
23 commonwealth and Long island and Moon island are hereby declared reservation lands of the
24 commonwealth pursuant to chapter 92 of the General Laws.