

HOUSE No. 2001

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Anne M. Gobi and George N. Peterson, Jr.

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 valuing our natural resources.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>5th Worcester</i>
<i>George N. Peterson, Jr.</i>	<i>9th Worcester</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>
<i>John W. Scibak</i>	<i>2nd Hampshire</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>
<i>Denise Andrews</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>
<i>Richard J. Ross</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol, and Middlesex</i>
<i>David M. Torrisi</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>
<i>Stephen M. Brewer</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin</i>
<i>Stephen Kulik</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>
<i>Gailanne M. Cariddi</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>
<i>Matthew A. Beaton</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>

HOUSE No. 2001

By Representatives Ms. Gobi of Spencer and Mr. Peterson, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2001) of McMurtry and others relative to trapping for the purpose of capturing furbearing mammals Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—————
In the Year Two Thousand Eleven
—————

An Act valuing our natural resources.

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. Chapter 131 of the Massachusetts General Laws is hereby amended by striking
2 the first and second paragraphs of Section 80A in their entirety and inserting in place thereof the
3 following:

4

5 Section 80A. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a person shall not use,
6 set, place or maintain any trap for the purpose of capturing furbearing mammals, except for
7 common type mouse and rat traps, nets, and box or cage type traps, as otherwise permitted by
8 law. A box or cage type trap is one that confines the whole animal without grasping any part of
9 the animal, including Hancock or Bailey’s type live trap for beavers. Other than nets and
10 common type mouse or rat traps, traps designed to capture and hold a furbearing mammal by
11 gripping the mammal’s body, or body part are prohibited, including steel jaw leghold traps,
12 padded leghold traps, and snares.

13 The above provision shall not apply to the use of prohibited devices by federal and state
14 departments of health, wildlife management agencies or divisions or municipal boards of health
15 for the purpose of protection from threats to human health and safety or for the management of
16 furbearing wildlife during their established regulated seasons. The uses of prohibited devices are
17 subject to the regulations and restrictions promulgated by the Massachusetts Division of
18 Fisheries & Wildlife. A threat to human health and safety may include, but shall not be limited
19 to: