

HOUSE No. 02020

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Alice Hanlon Peisch

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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the Massachusetts Water Management Act.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Alice Hanlon Peisch

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

14th Norfolk

HOUSE No. 02020

By Ms. Peisch of Wellesley, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2020) of Peisch relative to the Massachusetts Water Management Act Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act relative to the Massachusetts Water Management Act.

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 2, of Chapter 21G of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at the end of the definition of “Permit” the following
3 sentence:-

4 The permit program is intended to assist the department in the comprehensive management of
5 the commonwealth’s water resources within its river basins in a manner that ensures an
6 appropriate balance among competing water withdrawals and uses, as well as preservation of the
7 water resource itself.

8 SECTION 2. Said Section 2, of said Chapter 21G of the General Laws, as appearing in the
9 2008 Official Edition, is hereby further amended by inserting at the end of the definition of
10 “Registration statement” the following sentence:-

11 The registration statement is intended to enable the department to document baseline water use in
12 the commonwealth.

13 SECTION 3. Section 5, of said Chapter 21G of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008
14 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

15 All properly filed water management act renewal registration statements shall entitle the
16 registrants to their registered water use volumes without conditions excepting that the department
17 may require proper metering or other means to accurately measure the volume of water
18 withdrawn under a renewal registration statement. No regulations may be promulgated that
19 would allow the imposition of any such conditions other than withdrawal volume measurement.