

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 638**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Tackey Chan*

*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 expanding pleasure boat access to Boston Harbor.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Tackey Chan*

*Bruce J. Ayers*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*2nd Norfolk*

*1st Norfolk*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 638**

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By Mr. Chan of Quincy, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 638) of Tackey Chan and Bruce J. Ayers for legislation to expand pleasure boat access to Boston Harbor. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 676 OF 2013-2014.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**  
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An Act expanding pleasure boat access to 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. Notwithstanding any General Law or Special Law to the contrary, all state  
2 and municipal public agencies and authorities owning or controlling property within the City of  
3 Boston, including but not limited to the City of Boston and the Massachusetts Port Authority, are  
4 hereby authorized and directed to identify and cause the establishment of mooring and docking  
5 facilities for pleasure boats within the City of Boston, with a particular emphasis on improving  
6 the availability to the general public of multiple useful locations for mooring or docking on a  
7 short term (hourly or daily) basis. Said agencies or authorities shall issue one or more public  
8 Requests for Proposals to solicit provision to the general public of the necessary or appropriate  
9 capital facilities and operations and maintenance services, with a particular emphasis on  
10 establishing new mooring or docking facilities available to the general public for short term

11 usage as well as on a seasonal basis. According to their respective authorizing Acts or Charters,  
12 said public agencies or authorities may lease property, purchase property and/or enter into  
13 memoranda of agreement with private entities or other public agencies or authorities to improve  
14 public navigational access to Boston Harbor and the Harbor Islands for pleasure boating and to  
15 facilitate creation of boat landing, mooring or docking facilities available to the general public.  
16 Public agencies and authorities owning or controlling property within the City of Boston may  
17 charge or cause to be charged reasonable, market rate fees to defray the cost of creation and  
18 maintenance of any mooring or docking facility made available to the general public. Nothing in  
19 this section shall be construed to limit the provision of boating facilities to the general public by  
20 private or non-profit service providers. The City of Boston may expend funds from any account  
21 created under section 5G of chapter 40 of the General Laws for fulfilling this section. All state  
22 and municipal public agencies and authorities owning or controlling property in the City of  
23 Boston jointly or separately shall file a report with the Joint Committee on Natural Resources  
24 and Agriculture, the Commission of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, and the  
25 Public Access Board on or before January 1 of each year reporting on the locations for public tie  
26 up, mooring or docking within the City of Boston, including but not limited to the Inner Harbor  
27 of the Port of Boston and including but not limited to non-seasonal, transient, short term public  
28 facilities.