

HOUSE No. 711

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James Cantwell

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 establishing a regional dredge grants program.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

James Cantwell

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

4th Plymouth

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 773 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A REGIONAL DREDGE GRANTS PROGRAM.

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 52 of chapter 88 of the Acts of 1997 is hereby amended by striking out, in line 48, the word “and”;
2 and by inserting, in line 54, after the words “not to exceed \$25,000”, the following:— and provided further, that the
3 department is hereby authorized to establish a program within the office of waterways for the purpose of
4 administering grants to one or more regional entities for the purchase of dredges and associated capital equipment.
5 Regional entities shall mean any municipality, associations of municipalities, or other entity deemed fiscally and
6 administratively qualified pursuant to regulations promulgated by the department. The regional entity or regional
7 entities receiving a grant pursuant to this section shall be responsible for implementing a public harbor dredging
8 program and shall be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the dredge program, the establishment and
9 scheduling of services, the maintenance of books and records and for obtaining permits. The department shall
10 provide to the committee on natural resources, the house committee on ways and means, and the senate committee
11 on ways and means, no later than September 1 of each year in which grants are made, a written report as to the
12 nature and scope of grants made in the preceding 12 months. The commissioner is authorized to make such rules and
13 regulations as are necessary and appropriate to establish and administer grants pursuant to this section. In no event,
14 however, shall the department be obligated to expend more than 2 million dollars for this purpose, which amount
15 shall be available for expenditure by the department through June 30, 2006.