

HOUSE No. 797

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Dylan A. Fernandes

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 removing barriers to beach access.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Dylan A. Fernandes</i>	<i>Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket</i>	<i>1/17/2023</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/7/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 797

By Representative Fernandes of Falmouth, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 797) of Dylan A. Fernandes and Michelle M. DuBois relative to beach access and parking fees. Environment and Natural Resources.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act removing barriers to beach access.

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 29 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by adding the following section:

3 Section 72. (a) As used in this section, the following words shall have the following
4 meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

5 “Excessive parking fees”, any fee that exceeds beach parking fees for residents of the
6 commonwealth set by the department of conservation and recreation.

7 (b) No state agency or state authority shall make expenditures involving state monies to
8 beaches that restrict access to residents or renters of the municipalities that control said beaches
9 only.

10 (c) No state agency shall make expenditures involving state monies to beaches that
11 charge excessive parking fees in parking lots dedicated to such beaches.

12 (d) A city or town shall not be eligible for any state or federal funds or grants
13 administered by the commonwealth until such time as the municipality has provided for access to
14 municipal beaches pursuant to subsection (b) and reduced excessive parking fees to an amount
15 no greater than the highest beach parking charged by the commonwealth for residents of the
16 commonwealth.