

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 863**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Antonio F. D. Cabral*

*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 to create the department of marine fisheries resources.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Antonio F. D. Cabral</i>	<i>13th Bristol</i>	<i>2/19/2021</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 863**

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By Mr. Cabral of New Bedford, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 863) of Antonio F. D. Cabral for legislation to create the department of marine fisheries resources. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**

An Act to create the department of marine fisheries 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. Section 1 of chapter 130 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended, by striking out, in line 26, “division of marine fisheries” and  
3 inserting in place thereof the following: “division of marine fisheries resources.”

4 SECTION 2. Chapter 130 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition,  
5 is hereby amended by striking out section 1A and inserting in place thereof the following:

6 Section 1A. The division of marine fisheries resources shall be within the department in  
7 the executive office of environmental affairs and shall be under the administrative supervision of  
8 a director who shall be called the director of marine fisheries resources. The director of the  
9 division of marine fisheries resources shall be appointed and may be removed by the  
10 commissioner of the department of fish and game with the approval of the marine fisheries  
11 advisory commission. The said division of marine fisheries resources shall:

12 (a) Promote and develop the commercial fishing industry; investigate improved methods  
13 of marketing and distributing commercial fish products within the commonwealth; and establish  
14 standards and design labels for the identification of commercial fish products processed,  
15 prepared or packed for distribution and for retail sales;

16 (b) Improve the conditions for fishermen, fish processors and other shore side industries;

17 (c) Collect and disseminate catch data as well as statistics about the fish and shellfish  
18 brought into, processed, marketed, stored or held within the commonwealth, and make such  
19 statistics available to the public from time to time and the location thereof;

20 (d) Arrange for lectures and issue for general distribution such publications best adapted  
21 to promote the interests of commercial fisheries;

22 (e) Establish and maintain properties at such places within the commonwealth for the  
23 purpose of propagating, rearing and protecting fish;

24 (f) Enter into agreements with public or private entities, including the University of  
25 Massachusetts, to perform fish counts and fish stock analyses or other fisheries research;

26 (g) Publish reports or recommendations based on fish counts, fish stock analyses or other  
27 fisheries research;

28 (h) Advise the Governor of the potential impact of regulation on the fishing industry and  
29 co-operate with all departments, boards, officials and institutions of the commonwealth or its  
30 subdivisions that may be concerned in any way with matters under its supervision;

31 (i) Co-operate with other states, with the United States of America or any agency thereof,  
32 with other nations and with any other agencies as may be authorized by the general court, and

33 receive and dispense such funds from any of such agencies, states or governments as may be  
34 authorized by the general court; and

35 (j) Oversee the division of marine fisheries resources and all of its functions and  
36 administer all the laws relating to marine fisheries as appearing in chapter one hundred and thirty  
37 and any other general or special laws, except as pertain to the enforcement thereof.”

38 SECTION 3. Section 1B of chapter 130 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018  
39 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 1, the words “division of marine  
40 fisheries” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “division of marine fisheries  
41 resources”.

42 SECTION 4. Section 74 of chapter 130 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018  
43 Official Edition, is hereby amended as follows:

44 (a) striking out, in line 1, the words “division of marine fisheries” and inserting in place  
45 thereof the following words:- “division of marine fisheries resources”; and

46 (b) striking out, in line 8, the words “division of marine fisheries” and inserting in place  
47 thereof the following words:- “division of marine fisheries resources”; and

48 (c) striking out, in lines 10-11, the words “division of marine fisheries” and inserting in  
49 place thereof the following words:- “division of marine fisheries resources”.

50 (d) striking out, in line 26, the words “division of marine fisheries” and inserting in place  
51 thereof the following words:- “division of marine fisheries resources”.

52 (e) striking out, in line 36, the words “division of marine fisheries” and inserting in place  
53 thereof the following words:- “division of marine fisheries resources”.

54 (f) striking out, in line 41, the words “division of marine fisheries” and inserting in place  
55 thereof the following words:- “division of marine fisheries resources”.

56 (g) striking out, in line 44, the words “division of marine fisheries” and inserting in place  
57 thereof the following words:- “division of marine fisheries resources”.

58 (h) striking out, in lines 45-46, the words “division of marine fisheries” and inserting in  
59 place thereof the following words:- “division of marine fisheries resources”.

60 (i) striking out, in lines 51-52, the words “division of marine fisheries” and inserting in  
61 place thereof the following words:- “division of marine fisheries resources”.

62 (j) striking out, in line 58, the words “division of marine fisheries” and inserting in place  
63 thereof the following words:- “division of marine fisheries resources”.

64 (k) striking out, in lines 62-63, the words “division of marine fisheries” and inserting in  
65 place thereof the following words:- “division of marine fisheries resources”.

66 SECTION 5. Section 76 of chapter 130 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018  
67 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 1, the words “division of marine  
68 fisheries” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “division of marine fisheries  
69 resources”.

70 SECTION 6. Section 77 of chapter 130 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018  
71 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 2-3, the words “division of marine  
72 fisheries” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “division of marine fisheries  
73 resources”.

74           SECTION 7. Section 80 of chapter 130 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018  
75 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 25, the words “division of marine  
76 fisheries” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “division of marine fisheries  
77 resources”.