

HOUSE No. 714

By Mr. Atsalis of Barnstable, petition of Demetrius J. Atsalis relative to cables in ocean sanctuaries. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO CABLES IN OCEAN SANCTUARIES.

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 16 of chapter 132A of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 inserting after the word “energy” and before the semi-colon in line
4 15, the following words:— , provided, however, that cables which
5 do not connect existing or new facilities located on physically sepa-
6 rate land areas whether on the same or different coastlines which
7 produce, deliver, or otherwise provide electric, gas, water, sewage,
8 transportation, or telecommunications services to the public are pro-
9 hibited, unless the executive office of environmental affairs makes a
10 determination that the facility utilizing such cables does not present
11 a coastal hazard, create adverse economic or aesthetic impacts, or
12 significantly alter or otherwise endanger the ecology or the appear-
13 ance of the ocean, the seabed or the subsoil thereof.

1 SECTION 2. Said section 16 of said chapter 132A, as so
2 appearing, is hereby further amended by inserting after the word
3 “department” and before the semi-colon in line 20 the following
4 words:— , provided, however, that a project authorized under
5 chapter 91 and which involves an activity, use or facility associated
6 with the generation, transmission or distribution of electrical power
7 and which is a pipeline, aqueduct, conduit, cable, or wire including
8 associated vertical support structures which are located under or
9 over the water, and which does not connect existing or new facilities
10 located on physically separate land areas whether on the same or dif-

11 ferent coastlines is prohibited, unless the executive office of environ-
12 mental affairs makes a determination that the project does not pre-
13 sent a coastal hazard, create adverse economic or aesthetic impacts,
14 or significantly alter or otherwise endanger the ecology or the
15 appearance of the ocean, the seabed or the subsoil thereof.