

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 730

By Mr. Casey of Winchester, petition of Paul C. Casey for legislation to protect the Commonwealth's lakes and ponds. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT PROTECTING THE COMMONWEALTH'S LAKES AND PONDS.

*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 10 of the General Laws is hereby amended  
2 by inserting after Section 35X the following section:—  
3 Section 35Y. There shall be established and set up a separate fund  
4 to be known as the Invasive Aquatic Plant Management Fund for the  
5 purpose of funding the invasive aquatic plants prevention grant pro-  
6 gram within the department of environmental protection. There shall  
7 be credited to said fund all monies received under Section 3A of  
8 Chapter 90B.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 21A of the General Laws is hereby  
2 amended by adding the following section:—  
3 Section 21. The department of environmental protection shall  
4 establish a grant program for the allocation of money to lake associ-  
5 ations and towns which seek to administer an invasive aquatic plant  
6 prevention and mitigation prevention program. The grant program  
7 shall be funded by the Invasive Aquatic Plant Management Fund  
8 established by Section 35Y of Chapter 10. The department of envi-  
9 ronmental protection shall establish a management plan to imple-  
10 ment the grant program. The management plan shall include, but not  
11 be limited to:—  
12 I. Eligibility determination criteria and procedures.  
13 II. Application requirements and procedures.  
14 III. Project selection and prioritization requirements and  
15 procedures.

16 IV. Stewardship requirements and procedures, including annual  
17 reporting to the department by the grantee.

18 The department of environmental protection shall distribute funds  
19 for projects to further the purpose of this chapter only to eligible  
20 applicants. Eligible applicants shall include:—

21 (i) Publicly-supported nonprofit corporations exempt from federal  
22 income taxation under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.

23 (ii) Municipalities or other political subdivisions of the state.

24 (iii) Institutions of higher learning.

25 (iv) Departments or organizations within the federal government.

1 SECTION 3. Chapter 90B of the General Laws is hereby  
2 amended by inserting after Section 3 the following section:—

3 Section 3A. For each application and fee submitted in accordance  
4 with Section 3(a), five dollars of said fee shall be paid into the Inva-  
5 sive Aquatic Plant Management Fund established by section 35Y of  
6 Chapter 10.

1 SECTION 4. A fee of ten dollars shall be collected for each out-  
2 of-state motorboat entering Massachusetts lakes and ponds, which  
3 shall be collected by appropriate environmental law enforcement  
4 authorities or their designees, and shall be paid into the Invasive  
5 Aquatic Plant Management Fund established by Section 35Y of  
6 Chapter 10.