

Massachusetts Marine Trades Association
Jamy Buchanan Madeja, Esq.
Buchanan & Associates
33 Mount Vernon Street Boston, MA 02108
617-227-8410 – jmadeja@buchananassociates.com

HOUSE BILLS

SUPPORT BILLS:

HB68 (Chapter 6 of 2017) - An Act to reorganize the Department of Public Safety

***Testified in support of the proposed Office of Public Safety and Inspections within the Division of Professional Licensure, which will review licensing applications. NOW LAW.**

Sponsor: Governor

Cosponsors: Rep. Carvalho, Evandro (D); Rep. Decker, Marjorie (D); Rep. Diehl, Geoff (R); Rep. Dubois, Michelle (D); Rep. Farley-Bouvier, Tricia (D); Rep. Fernandes, Dylan (D); Rep. Garballey, Sean (D); Rep. Goldstein-Rose, Solomon (D); Rep. Gonzalez, Carlos (D); Rep. Heroux, Paul (D); Rep. Holmes, Russell (D); Rep. Keefe, Mary (D); Rep. Lewis, Jack (D); Rep. Livingstone, Jay (D); Rep. Mirra, Leonard (R); Rep. Rogers, David (D); Rep. Ryan, Daniel (D); Rep. Tyler, Chynah (D); Rep. Walsh, Chris (D); Sen. Chang-Diaz, Sonia (D); Sen. DiDomenico, Sal (D); Sen. Forry, Linda (D)

Summary: Governor Baker's "Article 87" reorganization of the Department of Public Safety, weighing in at 209 sections, would split the functions of the current Department of Public Safety between the Division of Professional Licensure and the Department of Fire Services. According to the Governor, this will enable the Commonwealth to consolidate licensing functions currently split across several secretariats. Specifically, this bill establishes an Office of Public Safety and Inspections to be housed within the Division of Professional Licensure (and part of the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development). It then transfers all of the non-fire-related functions of the Department of Public Safety to the Office of Public Safety and Inspections and the fire-related functions to the Department of Fire Services. This bill would also change the distribution of agencies under the undersecretaries within the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security to more closely align with their areas of expertise. In addition, the bill makes technical changes to reflect the transfer of functions, removes outdated references, and updates antiquated language.

Status: Became law without Governor's signature (UNSIGNED)

Complete 01/25/17 - H - Filed in the House

History: 01/26/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

01/30/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

02/17/17 - Hearing Scheduled (2/22/17 11:00AM - Joint Committee on State Administration & Regulatory Oversight B-1)

03/06/17 - S - Placed in the Orders of the Day for the next session - the question being "Shall this reorganization plan be approved?"

03/21/17 - House Session (3/22/17 11:00 AM House Chamber)

03/27/17 - H - Laid aside as moot (Rep. Nangle)

03/27/17 - G - Became Law pursuant to Article 87 of the Amendment to the Constitution

HB399 - An Act relative to boater safety to be known as the David Hanson Act

Last legislative session, MMTA submitted a rewrite and worked extensively with proponents to restore three basic principles for bill passage. MMTA will pursue the same course of action this session.

Sponsor: Rep. Calter, Thomas (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Ayers, Bruce (D); Rep. Cantwell, James (D); Rep. Garry, Colleen (D); Rep. Keefe, Mary (D); Rep. Vincent, RoseLee (D); Sen. Moore, Michael (D)
Summary: Adds several new sections to GL 90B, the statute governing Motorboats, Other Vessels and Recreational Vehicles, to be called the David Hanson Act; directs the director of law enforcement in the division of fisheries, wildlife and environmental law enforcement to establish and implement a boating education program, boating education course, examination, certificate and examination fee; prohibits persons born on or after January 1, 1988 from operating a motorboat unless such person obtains a boating certificate; phases in said requirement for persons born before that date; establishes penalties for violations of these provisions; establishes certain exemptions to these provisions; requires persons engaged in the business of renting or leasing motorboats to provide a safe motorboat operation checklist to operators.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB471 - An Act establishing a commission to study dredging needs for recreational boating in Commonwealth waterways

MMTA assisted in the drafting of this bill and supports this bill

Sponsor: Rep. Straus, William (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Berthiaume Jr., Donald (R); Rep. Cantwell, James (D); Rep. Chan, Tackey (D); Rep. Cutler, Josh (D); Rep. Ferguson, Kimberly (R); Rep. Gifford, Susan (R); Rep. Haddad, Patricia (D); Rep. Heroux, Paul (D); Rep. Hill, Bradford (R); Rep. Hunt, Randy (R); Rep. Koczera, Robert (D); Rep. Mirra, Leonard (R); Rep. Muratore, Mathew (R); Rep. Orrall, Keiko (R); Rep. Parisella, Jerald (D); Rep. Peake, Sarah (D); Rep. Puppolo, Jr., Angelo (D); Rep. Vieira, David (R); Sen. Lovely, Joan (D); Sen. Moore, Michael (D); Sen. Tarr, Bruce (R)
Summary: Establishes a 9 member commission to study needed dredging for recreational boating; specifies the qualifications of the members of the Commission; directs the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs to provide the commission with staff and other resources; directs the Commission to submit its findings and recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor within one year.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB405 - An Act relative to the financing of dredging projects

MMTA will support this bill

Sponsor: Rep. Cantwell, James (D)
Cosponsors: Sen. O'Connor, Patrick (R)
Summary: Adds new §11B to GL 91, the statute governing Waterways, to establish the Waterways Trust and to authorize the commissioner of the department of conservation and recreation to receive bequests, restitution and gifts to the trust for the purpose of improvements to harbors and inland waterways; amends GL 91:11A to authorize the department of environmental protection to participate in funding municipal and local authorities up to 75% for dredging projects and up to 50% for all other work authorized under this section; replaces references to the Soil Conservation Service of USDA in several places in the chapter with United States Army Corps of Engineers and other federal agencies.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/10/17 - H - Filed in the House

History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB406 - An Act establishing a regional dredge grants program

MMTA will support this bill

Sponsor: Rep. Cantwell, James (D)
Cosponsors: Sen. O'Connor, Patrick (R)
Summary: Adds new §11B to GL 91, the statute governing Waterways, establishing a program within the office of waterways to administer grants to regional entities for the purpose of purchasing dredges and associated capital equipment; defines such regional entities; authorizes up to two million dollars annually for the program; requires the department of environmental protection to file annual reports on the program to the legislature.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/10/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1490 - An Act restoring the harbors and inland waters maintenance fund

MMTA testified in support of this bill last session and will support it again this session.

Sponsor: Rep. Chan, Tackey (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Rogers, David (D); Sen. Tarr, Bruce (R)
Summary: Amends GLs 64A:13 and c. 91 to require that .05% of gas taxes revenue be credited to the Harbors and Inland Waters Maintenance Fund.
Status: Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)
Complete 01/10/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1511 - An Act establishing a permanent annual sales tax holiday

MMTA testified in support of this bill last session and will support it again this session.

Sponsor: Rep. Dwyer, James (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Cantwell, James (D); Sen. Tarr, Bruce (R)
Summary: Directs and authorizes the Commissioner of Revenue to annually designate, by July 15 of each calendar year, a two-day weekend in August for tax exemptions for sales.
Status: Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)
Complete 01/18/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1548 - An Act relative to a 2017 sales tax holiday

MMTA testified in support of this bill last session and will support it again this session.

Sponsor: Rep. Jones, Bradley (R)
Cosponsors: Rep. Berthiaume Jr., Donald (R); Rep. Boldyga, Nicholas (R); Rep. Ferguson, Kimberly (R); Rep. Frost, Paul (R); Rep. Gifford, Susan (R); Rep. Harrington, Sheila (R); Rep. Hill, Bradford (R); Rep. Howitt, Steven (R); Rep. Kuros, Kevin (R); Rep. McKenna, Joseph (R); Rep. Muratore, Mathew (R); Rep. Poirier, Elizabeth (R); Rep. Smola, Todd (R); Rep. Whelan, Timothy (R)

Summary: Establishes a sales tax holiday in August 2015 by suspending excise tax upon non-business sales at retail of tangible personal property on August 15th and 16th of 2015. Directs that telecommunications, tobacco products, gas, steam, electricity, motor vehicles, motorboats, meals, and single items in excess of \$2,500 will not be defined as tangible personal property. Prohibits vendors from collecting such excises that are suspended on those days and articulates that reporting requirements will remain in effect. A report by the commissioner of revenue will be due by the end of the year.

Status: Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)

Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House

History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1549 - An Act relative to a 2018 sales tax holiday

MMTA testified in support of this bill last session and will support it again this session.

Sponsor: Rep. Jones, Bradley (R)

Cosponsors: Rep. Berthiaume Jr., Donald (R); Rep. Boldyga, Nicholas (R); Rep. Ferguson, Kimberly (R); Rep. Frost, Paul (R); Rep. Gifford, Susan (R); Rep. Harrington, Sheila (R); Rep. Howitt, Steven (R); Rep. Kuros, Kevin (R); Rep. Poirier, Elizabeth (R); Rep. Smola, Todd (R); Rep. Whelan, Timothy (R)

Summary: Establishes a sales tax holiday notwithstanding any laws to the contrary. In particular, the sales tax holiday is to take place on August 13 & 14 2016, and is to be limited to 'nonbusiness' sales at retail of tangible personal property. Also exempts telecommunications, tobacco products, gas, steam, electricity, motor vehicles, motorboats, meals or a single item the price of which is in excess of \$2,500.

Status: Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)

Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House

History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1634 - An Act relative to local control of boat excise revenue

Public hearing scheduled for April 3rd, MMTA will testify in support.

Sponsor: Rep. Straus, William (D)

Cosponsors: No Cosponsors

Summary: Amends GL 60B:2, the statute governing excise tax of boats and other vessels, to authorize municipalities to increase the per cent of said excise tax that is earmarked for the municipal waterways improvement and maintenance fund by a vote of the legislative body.

Status: Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)

Complete 01/12/17 - H - Filed in the House

History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral
03/27/17 - Hearing Scheduled (4/3/17 1:00 PM - Joint Committee on Revenue B-2)

HB1896 - An Act to establish an office of maritime planning and policy development

MMTA testified in support of this bill last session and will support it again this session.

Sponsor: Rep. Straus, William (D)

Cosponsors: No Cosponsors

Summary: Adds new section 76 to GL 6C:52, the statute governing MassDOT's Mass Transit Division, to establish an office of maritime planning and policy development within the division; articulates the responsibilities of the new office; provides that said duties should not conflict with the administrative duties, powers and jurisdiction granted to MASSPORT, the Steamship Authorities or the MBTA.

Status: Joint Committee on Transportation (JTR)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Transportation
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

OPPOSITION BILLS:

HB2592 - An Act relative to the fairness of marine vessel reporting and fishermen exemptions

***MMTA'S opposition to this bill is ongoing. Public hearing scheduled for April 10th in which we will testify in opposition to the proposed language. A redraft has been submitted with Senator Tarr's office for the Senate bill, which has identical language to this House bill.**

Sponsor: Rep. Ferrante, Ann-Margaret (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Ayers, Bruce (D); Rep. Crighton, Brendan (D); Rep. Heroux, Paul (D); Rep. Tosado, Jose (D)
Summary: Amends GL 60B:3 to changes the exemption with respect to which kind of vessels are exempt from the excise on boats. Existing law provides that fishing boats of \$10,000 or less are exempt from the excise; this bill would raise that limit to \$50,000, but add a new proviso that 50% of the owner's income must come from commercial fishing. The bill also establishes that no owner of a vessel will be issued a registration decal or a renewal unless the owner has provided proof of payment of the excise. The bill additionally makes a number of technical amendments related to the administration of the excise.
Status: Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral
03/27/17 - Hearing Scheduled (4/10/17 1:00 PM - Joint Committee on Revenue B2)

HB2745 - An Act relative to boater safety

MMTA testified in opposition of this bill last session and will oppose it again this session.

Sponsor: Rep. Murphy, James (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Adds new sections 5D and 5E to GL Chapter 90B to provide that boaters must obtain a certificate of boating safety education before operating a motorized vessel with any type of power motor or any non-motorized vessel including kayaks and canoes and similar type vessels on the public waters of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Further provides for requirements regarding those holding certification and penalties for violating such and sets these sections to become effective 3 years after passage.
Status: Joint Committee on Transportation (JTR)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Transportation
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

OTHER RELEVANT BILLS:

HB1 - An Act making appropriations for fiscal year 2018

Sponsor: Governor
Cosponsors: Rep. Balsler, Ruth (D); Rep. Cariddi, Gailanne (D); Rep. Carvalho, Evandro (D); Rep. Decker, Marjorie (D); Rep. Diehl, Geoff (R); Rep. Dubois, Michelle (D); Rep. Farley-Bouvier, Tricia (D); Rep. Fernandes, Dylan (D); Rep. Garballey, Sean (D); Rep. Goldstein-Rose, Solomon (D); Rep. Gonzalez, Carlos (D); Rep. Heroux, Paul (D); Rep. Holmes, Russell (D); Rep. Keefe, Mary (D); Rep. Lewis, Jack (D); Rep. Livingstone, Jay (D); Rep. Mirra, Leonard (R); Rep. Rogers, David

(D); Rep. Ryan, Daniel (D); Rep. Tyler, Chynah (D); Rep. Walsh, Chris (D); Sen. Chang-Diaz, Sonia (D); Sen. DiDomenico, Sal (D); Sen. Forry, Linda (D)

Summary:

The Governor's budget submission for fiscal year 2017 proposes to spend \$37,208,448,194 in direct appropriations, \$535,187,161 in chargebacks, \$603,689,521 in retained revenue, and \$1,741,305,339 in consolidated transfers for a subtotal of \$40,088,630,215. In addition, the proposal includes \$2,485,382,614 in federal grant spending, bringing the appropriated subtotal up to \$42,574,012,829. Finally, there is \$12,133,627,886 in trust and other spending (the so-called "off budget" spending, which is not appropriated for), bringing the grand total for both appropriated and non-appropriated state spending to \$54,707,640,715. (Please note that the Governor gets to his \$39,553,443 figure by excluding federal grants, trust spending and budgetary non-tax revenue.)

The Governor's budget increases Chapter 70 education funding by \$72.1 million, supporting \$18.6 million for a redesigned quality kindergarten grant program to assist communities in achieving tuition-free, full-day kindergarten, and by adding over \$20 million to a revised charter school reimbursement formula and adding \$5.6 million for developing a next generation MCAS by \$5.6 million.

In the outside sections, the Governor proposes to explicitly authorize MassDOT to sell, lease or otherwise contract for advertising, including on or in its own facilities; expands the "dual enrollment" program by permitting students to enroll in nonprofit, degree-granting career technical institutions, in addition to public colleges; changes the formula by which the amount of benefits under the TAFDC program by increasing the amount of work-related expenses that may be retained by the recipient from \$150 to \$200 per month; establishes the MassHealth Delivery System Reform and SANE Trust Funds; equalizes the GIC contribution ratio at 25% for all employees, regardless of date of hire; streamlines the laboratory analysis of cocaine; expands MassHealth's ability to recover benefits paid on behalf of a deceased beneficiary, by allowing for the recovery of non-probate assets and the costs of Medicare Part D pharmacy payments made to the federal government, consistent with federal law; and increases the acute hospital assessment to support delivery system reform and increased Medicaid reimbursements to acute hospitals, among other things.

Status:

House Committee on Ways and Means (HWM)

Complete

01/25/17 - H - Filed in the House

History:

01/26/17 - H - Referred to House Committee on Ways & Means

03/07/17 - Hearing Scheduled (3/31/17 10:00AM - Joint Committee on Ways & Means A1 & A2)

03/07/17 - Hearing Scheduled (3/29/17 10:00AM - Joint Committee on Ways & Means UMASS Amherst - The Old Chapel, 144 Hicks Way, Amherst)

03/07/17 - Hearing Scheduled (3/27/17 10:00AM - Joint Committee on Ways & Means Matthew J. Kuss Middle School 52 Globe Mills Ave, Fall River)

03/07/17 - Hearing Scheduled (3/21/17 10:00AM - Joint Committee on Ways & Means Reggie Lewis Center - 1350 Tremont St, Roxbury Crossing)

03/07/17 - Hearing Scheduled (3/20/17 10:00AM - Joint Committee on Ways & Means Worcester State University - First Floor Student Center)

03/07/17 - Hearing Scheduled (3/16/17 10:00AM - Joint Committee on Ways & Means Endicott College - 376 Hale St, Beverly)

03/07/17 - Hearing Scheduled (3/15/17 10:00AM - Joint Committee on Ways & Means CANCELLED - Everett High School - 100 Elm Street, Everett)

03/07/17 - Hearing Scheduled (3/9/17 10:00AM - Joint Committee on Ways & Means A1 & A2)

03/16/17 - Hearing Scheduled (4/3/17 10:00AM - Joint Committee on Ways & Means Everett High School Library - 100 Elm Street, Everett)

HB391 - An Act providing for more efficient wetlands

Sponsor: Rep. Arciero, James (D)

Cosponsors: No Cosponsors

Summary:

Amends GL 40:8c by directing that a municipality may adopt; local wetlands ordinances or by-laws that are more stringent than those set forth in GL131:40; only if, prior to adoption, the department of environmental protection reviews any proposed ordinance or by-law and determines; that it has a recognized scientific basis, is a recommended best management practice, and is warranted given the unique resources identified as being in need of enhanced

protection prior to approval.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB394 - An Act relative to public access to Long Island in Boston Harbor

Sponsor: Rep. Ayers, Bruce (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Directs that if any form of state funding is used to provide a means of access to Long Island in Boston Harbor, such access must be open to the public.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/18/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB395 - An Act relative to the Division of Waterways to dredge Quincy Bay

Sponsor: Rep. Ayers, Bruce (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Adds a new section to GL 91 (Waterways) that instructs the Director of the Division of Waterways to dredge the natural channel between the Squantum Yacht Club, the Wollaston Yacht Club and Quincy Bay.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/18/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB396 - An Act establishing a revolving fund to supplement the funding of waterway projects and coastal protection initiatives

Sponsor: Rep. Ayers, Bruce (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Murphy, James (D)
Summary: Establishes and regulates use of the coastal protection and harbor maintenance revolving fund; authorizes the Department of Environmental Protection to use the fund to provide financial assistance to local governmental units to finance costs of coastal protection and harbor maintenance projects, as defined.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/18/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB398 - An Act instructing the Massachusetts Department of Fish & Game to study the feasibility of repurposing the former Moon Island Sewage Treatment Plant for the purposes of fish and shellfish farms

Sponsor: Rep. Ayers, Bruce (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Directs the Department of Fish & Game to conduct a study on the feasibility of repurposing the old sewage facility on Moon Island as a fish and shellfish farm for environmental and educational purposes. The findings are to be reported to the Mayors of Boston and Quincy, the Boston and Quincy Conservation Commissions, and the legislature by December 15, 2017. (No general or session laws cited).
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/18/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and

Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB401 - An Act relative to community preservation funds for coastal infrastructure

Sponsor: Rep. Cantwell, James (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Calter, Thomas (D); Rep. Cutler, Josh (D); Rep. Whelan, Timothy (R); Sen. O'Connor, Patrick (R)
Summary: Amends; GL 44B:6 by directing that, in coastal communities that adopt the community preservation act, at least 10% of the annual revenue in the community preservation be set aside to fund for the preservation of public infrastructure through beach nourishment, dune restoration, and seawall maintenance and reconstruction.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/10/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB402 - An Act making technical corrections to the Dam and Seawall Repair and Removal Fund

Sponsor: Rep. Cantwell, James (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Amends GL 29:21III, the statute governing the Dam and Seawall Removal Fund, to authorize the Fund to give priority to projects that are run by local governmental units in addition to other entities that are allowed priority.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/10/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB403 - An Act to protect open space, historical resources, and community housing from coastal threats

Sponsor: Rep. Cantwell, James (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Calter, Thomas (D); Rep. Cutler, Josh (D); Rep. Muratore, Mathew (R); Sen. O'Connor, Patrick (R)
Summary: Amends; GL 44B:6 by directing that, in coastal communities that adopt the community preservation act, at least 10% of the annual revenue in the community preservation be set aside to fund for the preservation of public infrastructure through beach nourishment, dune restoration, and seawall maintenance and reconstruction.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/10/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB404 - An Act reestablishing the harbors and inland waters maintenance fund

Sponsor: Rep. Cantwell, James (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Calter, Thomas (D); Rep. Cutler, Josh (D); Rep. Gifford, Susan (R); Rep. Keefe, Mary (D); Sen. O'Connor, Patrick (R)
Summary: Amends GL 91 by inserting a new §10E; establishes the Harbors and Inland Waters Maintenance Fund; establishes the revenue source for the fund, as well as duties to be carried out under the fund.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/10/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB409 - An Act authorizing and directing the director of the Division of Waterways to dredge the harbor area surrounding Houghs Neck in the city of Quincy

Sponsor: Rep. Chan, Tackey (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Ayers, Bruce (D)
Summary: Instructs the director of the Division of Waterways to dredge the harbor area surrounding Houghs Neck in the City of Quincy at a cost of no more than \$800,000.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/10/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB410 - An Act expanding pleasure boat access to Boston Harbor

Sponsor: Rep. Chan, Tackey (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Authorizes and directs all public agencies owning or controlling property within the city of Boston to establish or expand mooring and docking facilities for pleasure boats to make use of the Harbor and Islands; provides for a RFP process and investment of private funds for this purpose, and for the controlling agency to charge reasonable fees to defray the cost of any mooring or docking facility made available to the general public.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/10/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB411 - An Act relative to DCR yacht club fee reflecting water way access

Sponsor: Rep. Chan, Tackey (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Amends the provisions of SL 2010:65 which authorized DCAM to enter into 30 year leases with certain yacht clubs, by requiring the survey that DCAM must ordinarily undertake to include navigable channels and berthing/mooring areas on the water sheet; it also requires DCAM to manage, repair and maintain the land under water for the term of the lease for recreational boating waterside access and the protection of navigable waterways and channels.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/10/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB420 - An Act expanding the powers of the Director of Fisheries and Wildlife

Sponsor: Rep. Frost, Paul (R)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Amends GL 131:4 by expanding the authority of the director of the division of fisheries and wildlife to exempt certain persons from licensing requirements in order to control or manage wildlife.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB428 - An Act relative to underground storage tanks

Sponsor: Rep. Gregoire, Danielle (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Dubois, Michelle (D)
Summary: No Summary

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/18/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and
Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB430 - An Act to reduce solid waste, increase recycling and generate municipal cost savings

Sponsor: Rep. Hecht, Jonathan (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Balsler, Ruth (D); Rep. Benson, Jennifer (D); Rep. Connolly, Mike (D); Rep. Day, Michael (D); Rep. Decker, Marjorie (D); Rep. Honan, Kevin (D); Rep. Keefe, Mary (D); Rep. Khan, Kay (D); Rep. Parisella, Jerald (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D); Rep. Rogers, David (D); Rep. Smizik, Frank (D); Rep. Tosado, Jose (D); Rep. Walsh, Chris (D); Sen. Eldridge, James (D); Sen. Lewis, Jason (D)
Summary: Amends GL c.16 (Department of Highways) by adding provisions that generally are designed to reduce the amount of solid waste (a.k.a trash) in solid waste facilities (a.k.a. transfer stations or dumps). Specifically, the bill requires annual performance target goals for municipal solid waste reduction, based on total pounds of solid waste disposed per resident served per year; it requires all solid waste management facilities to remove and divert all waste ban materials to the greatest extent possible; it authorizes the Department of Environmental Protection and the communities hosting solid waste facilities to use action levels incorporated into certain regulations (310 CMR 19.017); it requires DEP and hosting communities to conduct frequent load inspections; and it requires DEP to collect a \$1.50/ton surcharge on all waste disposed of at a Solid Waste Disposal Facility to be used for the Zero Waste Fund and for the financing of recycling programs. (Note: it is generally a bad idea to reference or incorporate regulations into legislation.)
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and
Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB437 - An Act establishing a Department of Environmental Protection appeals board

Sponsor: Rep. Kafka, Louis (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Ashe, Brian (D); Rep. Dooley, Shawn (R); Rep. Rogers, John (D); Sen. Timilty, James (D); Sen. Timilty, Walter (D)
Summary: Adds a new section to GL 21A creating the Department of Environmental Protection Appeals Board to be chaired by the EOEEA Secretary or his designee and sets forth the qualifications and terms of the Board's members; replaces the current statutory process for appealing a determination by the Board of Registration of Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Professionals with a process for appealing to the Board created by this Act. (The new section is identified as §19G, which is a section that already exists.)
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and
Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB442 - An Act conserving our natural resources

Sponsor: Rep. Kulik, Stephen (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Gonzalez, Carlos (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D)
Summary: Prohibits a person to use, set, place or maintain any trap for the purpose of capturing furbearing mammals, except for common mouse and rat traps; describes other traps that are prohibited from being used for the aforementioned purpose; establishes that this provision will not apply to the use of prohibited devices by federal and state departments and those divisions and agencies described herein.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and

History: Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB445 - An Act amending MGL Chapter 21E and 310 CMR 4.03

Sponsor: Rep. Mark, Paul (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Gonzalez, Carlos (D)
Summary: Provides that no city, town or development authority having acquired a site acting in conformance with MGL Ch21E:2 (Massachusetts Oil and Hazardous Material Release Prevention and Response Act) may be assessed any annual compliance assurance fee; requires the amendment of CMR 310. 4.03 to include any city, town, redevelopment authority, redevelopment agency, community development corporation, or economic development and industrial corporation as among those, agencies exempted from annual compliance assurances fees. (Please note that General Laws should not seek to amend the Code of Mass Regulations.)
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete: 01/14/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB452 - An Act relative to an underground storage tank petroleum product cleanup fund

Sponsor: Rep. Muradian, David (R)
Cosponsors: Rep. D'Emilia, Angelo (R)
Summary: Inserts GL 29:2LLLL to establish the Underground Storage Tank Petroleum Product Cleanup Fund, into which fees, penalties and other amounts collected pursuant to GL 21J (which regulates underground petroleum storage and dispensing of petroleum) to be used to prevent the need for environmental cleanup actions and to expedite environmental cleanup actions by providing partial reimbursements to: (1) owners or operators of underground storage tanks or underground storage tank systems, (2) owners or operators of vessels or sites from or at which there is or has been a release or threat of release of oil or hazardous material and (3) any person who otherwise caused or is legally responsible for a release or threat of release of oil or hazardous material from a vessel or site.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete: 01/18/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB455 - An Act regarding designated port areas

Sponsor: Rep. Murphy, James (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Subject to municipal adoption of the act, subjects all development and permitting in Designated Port Areas, as designated in 301 CMR 25 to local review. References 301 CMR 15, which does not refer to Designated Port Areas. DPA's are defined in 301 CMR 25.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete: 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB466 - An Act relative to the conservation of Atlantic striped bass

Sponsor: Rep. Stanley, Thomas (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Hill, Bradford (R); Rep. Kane, Hannah (R); Rep. McMurtry, Paul (D); Rep. Rogers, John (D)
Summary: Amends GL 130:100A relative to striped bass regulations for marine fish and fisheries by prohibiting new commercial fishermen from fishing for striped bass while grandfathering in certain existing fishermen. It does this by first prohibiting the commercial harvesting and sale of wild striped bass except for those owning commercial licenses on December 31, 2012 who can historically demonstrate over the preceding 5 years that they have averaged an annual landing

and sale of more than 1000 pounds of striped bass , and second, by requiring that all aquaculture raised striped bass bear the tag of the grower or distributor of the fish; violations are to be punished by a fine of not less than \$200 for each fish taken or possessed for the first violation, \$500 for second violations and \$1000 for subsequent violations; adds new provisions that do allow commercial harvesting and sale of wild striped bass for individuals. Recreational angling is still permitted' certain hardship provisions are also enacted for somewhat smaller commercial fishermen wishing to be grandfathered in.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB468 - An Act to invasive plants

Sponsor: Rep. Straus, William (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Authorizes the department of agricultural resources to spend up to \$400,000 from the additional fees paid on pesticide licenses described in GL 132B, the Massachusetts Pesticide Control Act, for integrated pest management and control of invasive plants.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/11/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB472 - An Act establishing an ocean acidification task force

Sponsor: Rep. Straus, William (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Establishes an Ocean Acidification Task Force consisting of 19 members to study the direct and indirect effects of coastal and ocean acidification on species that are commercially harvested or grown in the commonwealth. The Task Force is to submit a report and drafts of recommended legislation to the legislature no later than March 20, 2016.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1118 - An Act incentivizing solar energy systems on brownfields

Sponsor: Rep. Vega, Aaron (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Berthiaume Jr., Donald (R); Rep. Heroux, Paul (D); Rep. Lewis, Jack (D); Rep. Mirra, Leonard (R); Rep. Orrall, Keiko (R); Rep. Smizik, Frank (D); Rep. Tosado, Jose (D); Rep. Walsh, Chris (D); Sen. Lewis, Jason (D)
Summary: Establishes a process for expedited permitting for the installation of solar energy generation, similar to that of GL 40B:21-23; specifies the eligibility for such a process, on brownfield sites in municipalities with over 15,000 residents and less than 5 MW of renewable power generation including rooftop systems; directs the Board of Appeals to notify applicable local boards and hold a hearing inviting such officials; specifies considerations for approval; directs the board to adopt rules for the approval of permits under this statute; establishes the process for issuance of a Comprehensive Solar Generation Permit; establishes a process for the appeal of such permits when they are unreasonably denied or issued to be uneconomic; directs the Department of Public Utilities to hold a hearing on such appeals; specifies the scope of such hearings; authorizes the department to vacate unreasonable or uneconomic permit decisions by the board; prohibits the department from issuing permits by its own authority; directs the board to carry out such findings by the department; establishes the findings of the department to be actions of the board if the board fails to do so.

Status: Joint Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government (JMR)
Complete 01/18/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government

HB1272 - An Act relative to hoisting license renewal

Sponsor: Rep. Howitt, Steven (R)
Cosponsors: Rep. Whelan, Timothy (R)
Summary: Amends GL 146:53 relative to the necessity of license or temporary permit for operating hoisting machinery not run by steam, by prohibiting the Commissioner of Public Safety from promulgating any rules or regulations requiring more than two hours of classroom credit every four years for the renewal of a hoisting license.
Status: Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security (JPSF)
Complete 01/12/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1302 - An Act relative to recreational vehicles

Sponsor: Rep. Puppolo, Jr., Angelo (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Ashe, Brian (D)
Summary: Amends GL 90B:21A relative to recreational vehicles, by authorizing the RMV and the Supervisor of the Boat and Recreational Vehicle Safety Bureau to establish a mandatory educational safety program for the operation of recreational vehicles. Prescribes fines for noncompliance with any requirements to complete said safety program.
Status: Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security (JPSF)
Complete 01/13/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1312 - An Act relative to kayak safety

Sponsor: Rep. Straus, William (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Amends GL c.90B, the statute governing Motorboats, Other Vessels and Recreational Vehicles, to add canoes and kayaks to the statute's provisions; requires kayak instructors to receive first aid and CPR training approved by DPH; requires kayak instructors to receive American Canoe Association certification, American Red Cross small craft safety certification and basic water rescue training; requires kayak instructors to train students on the safety procedures appropriate to the level of paddling difficulty.
Status: Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security (JPSF)
Complete 01/12/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1484 - An Act repealing the sales tax on boats built or rebuilt in the Commonwealth

Sponsor: Rep. Cantwell, James (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Cutler, Josh (D); Rep. Gifford, Susan (R); Rep. Muratore, Mathew (R); Rep. Whelan, Timothy (R); Sen. O'Connor, Patrick (R)
Summary: Exempts the sale of boats built or rebuilt and delivered in Massachusetts by Massachusetts craftsmen from the sales tax.
Status: Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)
Complete 01/10/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1525 - An Act repealing the property tax exemption for Massport lessees

Sponsor: Rep. Gordon, Kenneth (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Amends section 17 of chapter 465 of the Acts of 1956 to provide that when the Massachusetts Port Authority leases real property, the property taxes are to be paid by the lessee as if the lessee were the owner of said property. Further provides that Massport is to be exempt from taxes except for those levied upon real property and is entitled to enter into agreements with the

Status: Boston Redevelopment Authority to make payments in lieu of taxes for such.
Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)
Complete: 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1544 - An Act relative to a permanent sales tax holiday

Sponsor: Rep. Jones, Bradley (R)
Cosponsors: Rep. Berthiaume Jr., Donald (R); Rep. Boldyga, Nicholas (R); Rep. Diehl, Geoff (R); Rep. Ferguson, Kimberly (R); Rep. Frost, Paul (R); Rep. Gifford, Susan (R); Rep. Harrington, Sheila (R); Rep. Hill, Bradford (R); Rep. Howitt, Steven (R); Rep. Kuros, Kevin (R); Rep. McKenna, Joseph (R); Rep. Muratore, Mathew (R); Rep. Orrall, Keiko (R); Rep. Poirier, Elizabeth (R); Rep. Smola, Todd (R); Rep. Whelan, Timothy (R)
Summary: Enacts a new §6A in GL 64H relative to the sales tax, which would establish a permanent sales tax holiday. In particular, the Commissioner of Revenue would be required to designate a two day weekend in August, and to make that designation by July 15 of each calendar year. The holiday would apply to 'non-business' retail sales of tangible personal property, but excluding telecommunications, gas, steam, electricity, motor vehicles, boats, meals, or any single item whose price is in excess of \$2,500. When choosing the designated days, the Commissioner is to take into consideration the observance of any religious and secular days of observation occurring in August, and is to certify the amount forgone annually to the Comptroller.
Status: Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)
Complete: 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1575 - An Act relative to assessing administration

Sponsor: Rep. Livingstone, Jay (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Hunt, Daniel (D); Rep. Ryan, Daniel (D)
Summary: Amends GL 59:38 relative to tax assessment administration to prevent individuals from enjoining a city or town based upon tax assessed under that statute. Section 2 adds a Section 75A to Chapter 59 which would allow a town to retroactively assess a tax with interest if the board of assessors determines within three years that the full amount of tax was not assessed. In the case of a fraudulent return the town has a period of six years to assess a deficiency. Section 3 amends GL 59:61A relative to abatement applications to specify which modes of delivery are acceptable. Section 4 amends GL 59:75 relative to omitted tax assessments to require assessors to maintain a log of additionally imposed taxes stemming from past omissions for a period of 5 years, subject to audit by the DOR rather than submit a yearly report. Section 5 amends GL 60B:2 relative to excise tax of boats to institute a system of excise tax similar to that of motor vehicles. Section 6 amends GL 90B:3 relative to boat registration to require a showing of receipt of excise tax paid in the prior year to receive a certificate of number. Section 7 amends GL 90B:4 to require a showing of receipt of excise tax to receive a replacement certificate of number. Section 8 amends GL 60B:2 relative to excise tax of boats to provide that the minimum excise tax collected shall be no less than \$25
Status: Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)
Complete: 01/13/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1627 - An Act to amend the brownfields tax credit

Sponsor: Rep. Sanchez, Jeffrey (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Haddad, Patricia (D); Rep. Higgins, Natalie (D)
Summary: No Summary
Status: Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)
Complete: 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1635 - An Act relative to conservation restrictions

Sponsor: Rep. Straus, William (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: No Summary
Status: Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)
Complete: 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1708 - An Act to protect tropical forests by restricting state purchases of certain wood products

Sponsor: Rep. Rushing, Byron (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Dubois, Michelle (D); Rep. Gonzalez, Carlos (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D)
Summary: Adds new subsection (17a) to GL 7:22, the statute governing Administration and Finance, prohibiting the Commonwealth from purchasing wood grown in a tropical forest or products made substantially of wood grown in a tropical forest except where a public necessity exists and no other alternative is available, or unless the wood originates from second growth forests and carries independent certification; requires the consideration of recycled plastic lumber as an alternate material in all bids for outdoor and marine projects.
Status: Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight (JSA)
Complete: 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1724 - An Act relative to energy efficiency

Sponsor: Rep. Benson, Jennifer (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Chan, Tackey (D); Rep. Gordon, Kenneth (D); Rep. Hogan, Kate (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D); Sen. Eldridge, James (D)
Summary: No Summary
Status: Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (JTU)
Complete: 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1726 - An Act to promote green infrastructure, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and create jobs

Sponsor: Rep. Benson, Jennifer (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Ashe, Brian (D); Rep. Atkins, Cory (D); Rep. Balsler, Ruth (D); Rep. Barber, Christine (D); Rep. Brodeur, Paul (D); Rep. Calter, Thomas (D); Rep. Cariddi, Gailanne (D); Rep. Connolly, Mike (D); Rep. Coppinger, Edward (D); Rep. Crighton, Brendan (D); Rep. Day, Michael (D); Rep. Decker, Marjorie (D); Rep. DiZoglio, Diana (D); Rep. Donahue, Daniel (D); Rep. Driscoll, William (D); Rep. Dubois, Michelle (D); Rep. Ehrlich, Lori (D); Rep. Farley-Bouvier, Tricia (D); Rep. Fernandes, Dylan (D); Rep. Garballey, Sean (D); Rep. Garlick, Denise (D); Rep. Garry, Colleen (D); Rep. Gentile, Carmine (D); Rep. Goldstein-Rose, Solomon (D); Rep. Gonzalez, Carlos (D); Rep. Gordon, Kenneth (D); Rep. Hay, Stephan (D); Rep. Hecht, Jonathan (D); Rep. Heroux, Paul (D); Rep. Higgins, Natalie (D); Rep. Hogan, Kate (D); Rep. Keefe, Mary (D); Rep. Khan, Kay (D); Rep. Kocot, Peter (D); Rep. Kulik, Stephen (D); Rep. Lewis, Jack (D); Rep. Linsky, David (D); Rep. Livingstone, Jay (D); Rep. Madaro, Adrian (D); Rep. Malia, Elizabeth (D); Rep. Mark, Paul (D); Rep. McMurtry, Paul (D); Rep. Peisch, Alice (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D); Rep. Puppolo, Jr., Angelo (D); Rep. Rogers, David (D); Rep. Ryan, Daniel (D); Rep. Scibak, John (D); Rep. Smizik, Frank (D); Rep. Tosado, Jose (D); Rep. Tucker, Paul (D); Rep. Vega, Aaron (D); Rep. Vincent, RoseLee (D); Rep. Walsh, Chris (D); Sen. Eldridge, James (D); Sen. Lewis, Jason (D)
Summary: No Summary
Status: Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (JTU)
Complete: 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1729 - An Act relative to hydrokinetic energy

Sponsor: Rep. Cantwell, James (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Cutler, Josh (D); Rep. Hecht, Jonathan (D); Rep. Kocot, Peter (D)
Summary: Amends provisions of 138:164 and the definition of Class I net metering credit to add hydrokinetic energy to the list of alternative energies (currently solar, anaerobic digestion or wind as its energy source) which, if not used as the source of energy, will reduce the Class I credit to the average monthly clearing price at the ISO-NE. (A 'hydrokinetic net metering facility' is defined as one that uses waves, tides, and currents in oceans, estuaries, and tidal areas, free-flowing water in rivers, lakes, and streams or ocean thermal energy conversion to generate electricity.)'
Status: Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (JTU)
Complete 01/10/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1735 - An Act to increase courthouse energy efficiency

Sponsor: Rep. Cronin, Claire (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: No Summary
Status: Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (JTU)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1744 - An Act improving recycling in the Commonwealth

Sponsor: Rep. Garry, Colleen (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Amends various provisions of the General Laws, to repeal the 5 cent bottle deposit/refund law and instead institutes a 1 cent recycling fee on all containers of carbonated, noncarbonated-alcoholic and noncarbonated-nonalcoholic drinks, except milk and dairy derived products, infant formula or medical food, to be paid by distributors/wholesalers, either quarterly or annually; provides that fees collected and abandoned deposit amounts to be used for litter prevention and removal, municipal recycling collection programs and programs to increase recycling at public facilities and urban parks district reservations; assesses manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors and dealers a 1½ % interest fee on late recycling fee payments; and subjects manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors and dealers to a \$1,000 civil fine for each violation of this act.
Status: Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (JTU)
Complete 01/18/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1747 - An Act to increase renewable energy

Sponsor: Rep. Haddad, Patricia (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Fiola, Carole (D); Rep. Gonzalez, Carlos (D); Rep. Silvia, Alan (D); Sen. Pacheco, Marc (D)
Summary: Amends GL 25A:11F(Renewable energy portfolio standard for retail electricity suppliers) by adding a requirement to the portfolio standards that requires every retail supplier to provide a minimum of 40% KW sales to end-use customers in the Commonwealth from Class I renewable energy generating sources by 2030. Thereafter, the Department of Energy Resources will determine the appropriate annual increase in provision of Class I renewable energy generating sources from 2018 to 2030.
Status: Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (JTU)
Complete 01/13/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1748 - An Act relative to energy efficiency

Sponsor: Rep. Haddad, Patricia (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Gonzalez, Carlos (D); Sen. Rodrigues, Michael (D)
Summary: Establishes that the Department of Energy Resources in consultation with electric distribution companies, must establish an energy efficiency pilot program, limited to 10 companies in each electric distribution service territory, which will allow customers whose average monthly use of electricity in a 12 month period equals or exceeds 750,000 kWh the opportunity to use mandatory charges above 750,000 kWh per month, for any qualified energy efficiency measures (approved by the Department of Public Utilities).
Status: Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (JTU)
Complete 01/18/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1756 - An Act Relative to recycling grants for municipalities and state parks

Sponsor: Rep. Koczera, Robert (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Muratore, Mathew (R); Rep. Silvia, Alan (D); Rep. Walsh, Chris (D)
Summary: Amends GL 94:323D and inserts 94:323G to establish the Clean Environment Fund, (which was abolished in 2003) into which 40% of the abandoned recycled container deposits collected by bottlers and distributors will be credited. Sixty per cent of the Fund is to be used for state and municipal: solid waste reduction, recycling, littering and composting programs and initiatives; outreach programs; sustainable material recovery programs and initiatives; and recycling equipment and infrastructure improvements. The remaining 40% is to be used for improvements to state parks, state forest recreation areas and state reservations under DCR control and, if applicable, those improvements must meet or exceed LEEDS building standards. Inserts GL 132A:2E to require that the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Affairs establish a program to promote the recycling of refuse and reduce littering at all state parks, forest recreation areas and reservations maintained by the department. (New draft of HB705, which required 100% of abandoned recycling deposits be credited to the Clean Environment Fund, for purposes very similar to those articulated in this new draft.)
Status: Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (JTU)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1757 - An Act relative to renewable energy certificates

Sponsor: Rep. Kulik, Stephen (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Cahill, Daniel (D); Rep. Cariddi, Gailanne (D); Rep. Gonzalez, Carlos (D); Rep. Scibak, John (D); Sen. Eldridge, James (D)
Summary: Amends provisions of GL 25A:11F relative to renewable energy portfolio standard for retail electricity suppliers by striking out provisions that exempt municipal lighting plants from the obligations of the section so long as they are exempt from the requirements to allow competitive choice of generation supply, and replaces it with provisions that at the time of filing for qualification as a renewable energy generating source, each new facility (or facilities increasing their capacity) must meet site-specific standards that insure adequate and healthy river flows, water quality standards, fish passage and protection measures and mitigation and enhancement opportunities in the impacted watershed.
Status: Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (JTU)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB1800 - An Act providing for a study to be conducted on the cost feasibility of implementing a ferry service to Long Island in Boston Harbor

Sponsor: Rep. Ayers, Bruce (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Establishes an 11 member Special Commission to study and investigate the feasibility and efficacy of establishing, operating and administering a ferry service to Long Island; articulates

the qualifications of the members of the Commission; directs the Commission to identify and project the cost for establishing and operating such a service.

Status: Joint Committee on Transportation (JTR)
Complete: 01/18/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 02/24/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Transportation
02/24/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2004 - An Act to strategically plan for the commercial fishing industry

Sponsor: Rep. Ferrante, Ann-Margaret (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Cabral, Antonio (D)
Summary: Adds new subsection to GL 6A:16G, the statute governing the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, to require the Secretary to prepare an annual strategic report, in conjunction with the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs, regarding the Commonwealth's commercial fishing and shellfish industry; requires said report to include recommendations on maintaining and revitalizing the commercial fishing, shellfish and seafood industries.

Status: Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies (JEC)
Complete: 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2006 - An Act relative to designated port areas

Sponsor: Rep. Ferrante, Ann-Margaret (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Cabral, Antonio (D); Rep. Crighton, Brendan (D); Rep. Cusack, Mark (D); Rep. Fiola, Carole (D); Rep. Haddad, Patricia (D); Rep. Koczera, Robert (D); Rep. Murphy, James (D); Rep. Ryan, Daniel (D); Rep. Tucker, Paul (D); Sen. McGee, Thomas (D); Sen. Tarr, Bruce (R)
Summary: Amends GL 23A:3A, the statute governing definitions relative to economic development, to include designated port areas as gateway communities. Adds new section 2RRRR to GL Chapter 29 to establish the Designated Port Area Community Fund to be administered by the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency for the purpose of developing and providing economic assistance to properties located within a designated port area.

Status: Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies (JEC)
Complete: 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2108 - An Act protecting the natural resources of the Commonwealth

Sponsor: Rep. Balsler, Ruth (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Barber, Christine (D); Rep. Calter, Thomas (D); Rep. Campbell, Linda (D); Rep. Cariddi, Gailanne (D); Rep. Connolly, Mike (D); Rep. Decker, Marjorie (D); Rep. Donahue, Daniel (D); Rep. Dubois, Michelle (D); Rep. Ehrlich, Lori (D); Rep. Goldstein-Rose, Solomon (D); Rep. Gonzalez, Carlos (D); Rep. Heroux, Paul (D); Rep. Higgins, Natalie (D); Rep. Kaufman, Jay (D); Rep. Keefe, Mary (D); Rep. Khan, Kay (D); Rep. Kocot, Peter (D); Rep. Kulik, Stephen (D); Rep. Livingstone, Jay (D); Rep. Mahoney, John (D); Rep. Murphy, James (D); Rep. O'Day, James (D); Rep. Peake, Sarah (D); Rep. Peisch, Alice (D); Rep. Pignatelli, William (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D); Rep. Rogers, David (D); Rep. Ryan, Daniel (D); Rep. Scaccia, Angelo (D); Rep. Scibak, John (D); Rep. Smizik, Frank (D); Rep. Stanley, Thomas (D); Rep. Walsh, Chris (D); Rep. Walsh, Thomas (D); Sen. Barrett, Michael (D); Sen. Eldridge, James (D); Sen. L'Italien, Barbara (D); Sen. Lewis, Jason (D); Sen. O'Connor Ives, Kathleen (D); Sen. O'Connor, Patrick (R)

Summary: Inserts a new Chapter 132C into the General Laws relative to protecting the natural resources of the Commonwealth to provide that anyone proposing that lands acquired for the purposes of conservation be used for another purpose shall mitigate the loss by

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete: 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture

03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2109 - An Act to create the department of marine fisheries resources

Sponsor: Rep. Cabral, Antonio (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: No Summary
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2116 - An Act providing for the establishment of sustainable water resource funds

Sponsor: Rep. Dykema, Carolyn (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Arciero, James (D); Rep. Atkins, Cory (D); Rep. Benson, Jennifer (D); Rep. Calter, Thomas (D); Rep. Cantwell, James (D); Rep. Ferguson, Kimberly (R); Rep. Garballey, Sean (D); Rep. Gentile, Carmine (D); Rep. Gordon, Kenneth (D); Rep. Harrington, Sheila (R); Rep. Hecht, Jonathan (D); Rep. Higgins, Natalie (D); Rep. Hogan, Kate (D); Rep. Hunt, Daniel (D); Rep. Kafka, Louis (D); Rep. Kane, Hannah (R); Rep. Keefe, Mary (D); Rep. Markey, Christopher (D); Rep. McMurtry, Paul (D); Rep. Muratore, Mathew (R); Rep. Murphy, James (D); Rep. Murray, Brian (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D); Rep. Rogers, David (D); Rep. Ryan, Daniel (D); Rep. Walsh, Chris (D); Sen. Barrett, Michael (D); Sen. Cyr, Julian (D); Sen. Eldridge, James (D); Sen. Lewis, Jason (D); Sen. Ross, Richard (R)
Summary: Amends GL 40 by inserting a new section 39M; authorizes a municipality, water district, wastewater district or stormwater utility which accepts this section to establish a sustainable water resources fund, and to collect a charge to be used for measures to remedy and offset the environmental impacts of new or increased water withdrawals, sewerage, wastewater discharges, stormwater discharges or impairment of recharge of groundwater through depletion of ground or surface waters; articulates the permitted uses of and regulations governing the fund.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2117 - An Act relative to municipal assistance for clean water and economic development infrastructure

Sponsor: Rep. Dykema, Carolyn (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Arciero, James (D); Rep. Benson, Jennifer (D); Rep. Brodeur, Paul (D); Rep. Cabral, Antonio (D); Rep. Cantwell, James (D); Rep. Day, Michael (D); Rep. Garballey, Sean (D); Rep. Garry, Colleen (D); Rep. Gordon, Kenneth (D); Rep. Hecht, Jonathan (D); Rep. Heroux, Paul (D); Rep. Hogan, Kate (D); Rep. Kafka, Louis (D); Rep. Keefe, Mary (D); Rep. Markey, Christopher (D); Rep. McMurtry, Paul (D); Rep. Murphy, James (D); Rep. Murray, Brian (D); Rep. Peake, Sarah (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D); Rep. Smizik, Frank (D); Rep. Walsh, Chris (D); Sen. Barrett, Michael (D); Sen. Eldridge, James (D); Sen. L'Italien, Barbara (D); Sen. Lewis, Jason (D); Sen. Moore, Michael (D); Sen. Ross, Richard (R)
Summary: Establishes a Water Pollution Abatement Trust and a Water Infrastructure Improvement Fund for purposes of improving drinking water, wastewater and storm water capital assets through loans and grants, for which bonds may be issued for local or regional projects that meet certain criteria; authorizes the Treasurer to issue bonds for this purpose.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2121 - An Act reducing plastic bag pollution

Sponsor: Rep. Ehrlich, Lori (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Ashe, Brian (D); Rep. Balsler, Ruth (D); Rep. Benson, Jennifer (D); Rep. Connolly, Mike (D); Rep. Cutler, Josh (D); Rep. Decker, Marjorie (D); Rep. Dubois, Michelle (D); Rep. Gregoire, Danielle (D); Rep. Hecht, Jonathan (D); Rep. Heroux, Paul (D); Rep. Higgins, Natalie (D); Rep. Kafka, Louis (D); Rep. Keefe, Mary (D); Rep. Khan, Kay (D); Rep. Kocot, Peter (D); Rep. Lewis, Jack (D); Rep. Livingstone, Jay (D); Rep. Madaro, Adrian (D); Rep. Peake, Sarah (D); Rep. Peisch, Alice (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D); Rep. Rogers, David (D); Rep. Ryan, Daniel (D); Rep. Stanley, Thomas (D); Rep. Tosado, Jose (D); Rep. Walsh, Chris (D); Sen. Eldridge, James (D)
Summary: No Summary
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete: 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2122 - Resolve establishing a special commission to study the effects of coastal and ocean acidification and its existing and potential effects on species that are commercially harvested and grown along the Massachusetts coast

Sponsor: Rep. Fernandes, Dylan (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: This resolve establishes a special commission to identify the actual and potential effects of coastal and ocean acidification on commercially valuable marine species, to identify the scientific data and knowledge gaps that may hinder Massachusetts' ability to craft policy and other responses to coastal and ocean acidification, and prioritize the strategies for filling those gaps.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete: 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2123 - An Act relative to the scientific strategic planning of the Commonwealth's fishery

Sponsor: Rep. Ferrante, Ann-Margaret (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Amends GL 21A:3 (Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs) to direct the Secretary to include a report relative to the research to be conducted to manage the Commonwealth's fisheries and shellfisheries within the Executive Office's annual report.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete: 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2124 - An Act to establish a commercial fishing permit bank in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Sponsor: Rep. Ferrante, Ann-Margaret (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Amends GL 128:2, the statute governing powers and duties of the department of agriculture, to authorize the department to purchase federal fishery permits from any permit holder provided that such permit is transferable. Adds new section 107 to GL Chapter 130 to direct the department how to proceed with the permits that are purchased pursuant to GL 128:2.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete: 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2125 - An Act to regulate hydraulic fracturing

Sponsor: Rep. Garballey, Sean (D)

Cosponsors: No Cosponsors

Summary: Amends GL 21:43 by establishing a blanket prohibition on hydraulic fracturing (or 'fracking,' which involves the extraction of natural gas through pumping high pressure water mixed with certain (often proprietary) chemicals into a shale formation to create fractures to increase formation permeability). Specifically, the bill prohibits constructing, installing, operating, or maintaining a 'Class II' injection well in connection with hydraulic fracturing in the Commonwealth. In addition, there is established a blanket prohibition on the use of 'toxic' chemicals (as defined by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in connection with the extraction of natural gas. Class II wells are ones that are used to inject fluids which are brought to the surface in connection with oil or natural gas production and that may be commingled with wastewater from gas plants as an integral part of production operations (unless those waters are already classified as hazardous waste at the time of injection).

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)

Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House

History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2126 - An Act relative to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act

Sponsor: Rep. Gifford, Susan (R)

Cosponsors: Rep. Orrall, Keiko (R); Rep. Poirier, Elizabeth (R)

Summary: Amends GL 131:40, the statute governing the altering of land bordering waters, to include a resource area used in the growing, aiding, or protecting aquatic organisms as a land form that requires approval by the conservation commission to change.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)

Complete 01/20/17 - H - Filed in the House

History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2135 - An Act relative to shellfish reefs and water quality

Sponsor: Rep. Peake, Sarah (D)

Cosponsors: Rep. Ayers, Bruce (D); Rep. Cantwell, James (D); Rep. Gifford, Susan (R); Rep. Mirra, Leonard (R); Rep. Muratore, Mathew (R); Rep. Walsh, Chris (D)

Summary: Amends GL 91:18, the statute governing applications for licenses for construction relative to waterways, to provide that cultching (laying an oyster bed) for the express purpose of re-establishing or maintaining habitat for breeding shellfish, will not require a license so long as it is not placed on salt marsh or eel grass and is not an impediment to navigation.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)

Complete 01/20/17 - H - Filed in the House

History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2139 - An Act to improve water quality and pollution control programs

Sponsor: Rep. Rogers, David (D)

Cosponsors: Rep. Atkins, Cory (D); Rep. Balsler, Ruth (D); Rep. Benson, Jennifer (D); Rep. Connolly, Mike (D); Rep. Decker, Marjorie (D); Rep. Donahue, Daniel (D); Rep. Dykema, Carolyn (D); Rep. Garballey, Sean (D); Rep. Gordon, Kenneth (D); Rep. Hunt, Daniel (D); Rep. Keefe, Mary (D); Rep. Khan, Kay (D); Rep. Koczera, Robert (D); Rep. Madaro, Adrian (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D); Rep. Ryan, Daniel (D); Rep. Walsh, Chris (D); Sen. DiDomenico, Sal (D); Sen. L'Italien, Barbara (D); Sen. Lewis, Jason (D); Sen. Moore, Michael (D); Sen. Timilty, Walter (D)

Summary: No Summary

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)

Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House

History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2142 - An Act providing for the maintenance of the Neponset River for the health and safety of the public

Sponsor: Rep. Scaccia, Angelo (D)

Cosponsors: No Cosponsors

Summary: Requires the Department of Conservation and Recreation to perform regular review and maintenance of the Neponset River; directs that two park rangers be assigned and equipped from May through October to remove any fallen trees or shrubs that inhibit the safe passage along the River by the general public. (No statutory citations included.)

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)

Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House

History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2147 - An Act providing for the establishment of a comprehensive adaptation management plan in response to climate change

Sponsor: Rep. Smizik, Frank (D)

Cosponsors: Rep. Ayers, Bruce (D); Rep. Balsler, Ruth (D); Rep. Barber, Christine (D); Rep. Cantwell, James (D); Rep. Connolly, Mike (D); Rep. Cullinane, Daniel (D); Rep. Decker, Marjorie (D); Rep. Dykema, Carolyn (D); Rep. Ehrlich, Lori (D); Rep. Fernandes, Dylan (D); Rep. Goldstein-Rose, Solomon (D); Rep. Gordon, Kenneth (D); Rep. Hecht, Jonathan (D); Rep. Higgins, Natalie (D); Rep. Honan, Kevin (D); Rep. Kaufman, Jay (D); Rep. Khan, Kay (D); Rep. Linsky, David (D); Rep. Livingstone, Jay (D); Rep. Madaro, Adrian (D); Rep. Muratore, Mathew (R); Rep. Peake, Sarah (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D); Rep. Rogers, David (D); Rep. Rushing, Byron (D); Rep. Ultrino, Steven (D); Rep. Vega, Aaron (D); Rep. Vincent, RoseLee (D); Sen. L'Italien, Barbara (D); Sen. Moore, Michael (D); Sen. Pacheco, Marc (D)

Summary: Enacts a new Chapter 21P (Comprehensive Adaptation Management Planning in Response to Climate Change) in the General Laws. The new chapter would require the adoption a Comprehensive Adaptation Management Action Plan. Upon the adoption of the plan, all certificates, licenses, permits, authorizations, grants, financial obligations, projects, plans, actions, and approvals for any proposed projects, uses, or activities in and by the Commonwealth must be consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the adopted plan. Among other things, the Plan must demonstrate how the commonwealth will increase alternative local renewable power sources that reduce dependence on centralized power plants; improve resiliency by protecting and restoring natural green infrastructure; incentivize development in low-risk locations away from coastal and inland flood plains and discouraging new development in high-risk locations; and improve resiliency of structures through an update of the state Building Code. In addition, the plan is to encourage and provide guidance to regional planning agencies to proactively address the unavoidable consequences of climate change and provide a process for local and regional climate vulnerability assessment and adaptation strategy development; regional grants are to be designed to reduce community risks and hazards as a result of climate change; the Commonwealth may acquire from willing sellers land abutting or adjacent to areas subject to the ebb and flow of the tide or on barrier beaches or in velocity zones of flood plain areas.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)

Complete 01/20/17 - H - Filed in the House

History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2150 - An Act preserving public trust rights in land affected by ocean erosion

Sponsor: Rep. Smizik, Frank (D)

Cosponsors: No Cosponsors

Summary: Amends GL 91:25, the statute governing the definition of great ponds, to require that any portion of a barrier beach moved by natural processes onto public land, including the former

bottom of a great pond, shall remain in public ownership.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/20/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2491 - An Act relative to penalties for false distress calls

Sponsor: Rep. Ferrante, Ann-Margaret (D)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Directs the Secretary of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security, in consultation with the Attorney General, to promulgate regulations establishing a penalty schedule for false marine distress calls; requires the schedule to include reimbursements from individuals making such calls to responding state agencies.
Status: Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security (JPSF)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2635 - An Act relative to boat excise tax revenue for the Chatham waterfront

Sponsor: Rep. Peake, Sarah (D)
Cosponsors: Sen. Cyr, Julian (D)
Summary: Directs that 100% of the sums collected by the town of Chatham as boat excise tax will be credited to the town waterways improvement fund for the purposes of maintenance, piers and moorings, public access, and law enforcement and fire prevention.
Status: Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)
Complete 01/20/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2686 - An Act improving recycling in the Commonwealth

Sponsor: Rep. Cusack, Mark (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Cahill, Daniel (D); Rep. Heroux, Paul (D); Rep. McMurtry, Paul (D); Rep. Nangle, David (D); Rep. Orrall, Keiko (R); Rep. Tucker, Paul (D)
Summary: Amends various provisions of the General Laws, to repeal the 5 cent bottle deposit/refund law and instead institutes a 1 cent recycling fee on all containers of carbonated, noncarbonated-alcoholic and noncarbonated-nonalcoholic drinks, except milk and dairy derived products, infant formula or medical food, to be paid by distributors/wholesalers, either quarterly or annually; provides that fees collected and abandoned deposit amounts to be used for litter prevention and removal, municipal recycling collection programs and programs to increase recycling at public facilities and urban parks district reservations; assesses manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors and dealers a 1½ % interest fee on late recycling fee payments; and subjects manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors and dealers to a \$1,000 civil fine for each violation of this act.
Status: Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (JTU)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2700 - An Act to increase the renewable portfolio standard and ensure compliance with the Global Warming Solutions Act

Sponsor: Rep. Khan, Kay (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Atkins, Cory (D); Rep. Balsler, Ruth (D); Rep. Barber, Christine (D); Rep. Benson, Jennifer (D); Rep. Cabral, Antonio (D); Rep. Cariddi, Gailanne (D); Rep. Connolly, Mike (D); Rep. Coppinger, Edward (D); Rep. Decker, Marjorie (D); Rep. Dykema, Carolyn (D); Rep. Ehrlich, Lori (D); Rep. Fernandes, Dylan (D); Rep. Garballey, Sean (D); Rep. Garlick, Denise (D); Rep. Garry, Colleen (D); Rep. Gentile, Carmine (D); Rep. Goldstein-Rose, Solomon (D); Rep. Gordon, Kenneth (D); Rep. Hecht, Jonathan (D); Rep. Heroux, Paul (D); Rep. Higgins, Natalie

(D); Rep. Kafka, Louis (D); Rep. Kaufman, Jay (D); Rep. Kocot, Peter (D); Rep. Koczera, Robert (D); Rep. Kulik, Stephen (D); Rep. Lewis, Jack (D); Rep. Linsky, David (D); Rep. Livingstone, Jay (D); Rep. Madaro, Adrian (D); Rep. Malia, Elizabeth (D); Rep. McMurtry, Paul (D); Rep. Meschino, Joan (D); Rep. Mom, Rady (D); Rep. Murray, Brian (D); Rep. Peisch, Alice (D); Rep. Pignatelli, William (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D); Rep. Puppolo, Jr., Angelo (D); Rep. Rogers, David (D); Rep. Sanchez, Jeffrey (D); Rep. Scibak, John (D); Rep. Smizik, Frank (D); Rep. Stanley, Thomas (D); Rep. Tosado, Jose (D); Rep. Vega, Aaron (D); Rep. Walsh, Chris (D); Sen. Eldridge, James (D); Sen. Jehlen, Patricia (D); Sen. Lewis, Jason (D); Sen. O'Connor Ives, Kathleen (D); Sen. Tarr, Bruce (R)

Summary: No Summary
Status: Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (JTU)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2710 - An Act relative to comprehensive siting reform for land based wind projects

Sponsor: Rep. Smizik, Frank (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Decker, Marjorie (D); Rep. Goldstein-Rose, Solomon (D); Rep. Heroux, Paul (D); Rep. Scibak, John (D)
Summary: Encourages the development of wind powered electric generating plants, ensure such facilities are based in appropriate locations, and streamline the permitting process for such facilities. Amends GL 25A:10 relative to green communities to include language incorporating regional governmental bodies into the green community program. Inserts a new Chapter 25D into the General Laws defining terms relative to wind energy permitting, establishes a process for distributing local wind permits, allows a local wind energy permitting board consisting of 3 or 5 members to be created by municipalities not identified as a significant wind resource area. Further delineates both the local and state permit application and decision process. An energy facilities siting board is created to help ensure that facilities are appropriately located and to mitigate the societal impacts of the facilities. Requires the siting board to impanel an advisory group consisting of 17 members. Provides further guidelines for the preparation of the wind energy permitting process.
Status: Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (JTU)
Complete 01/20/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/08/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
03/08/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2777 - An Act to enable the Commonwealth's administration of the Massachusetts pollutant discharge elimination system

Sponsor: Governor
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: This bill, filed by the Governor, is necessary to enable Massachusetts to receive federal delegation of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ('NPDES'), which is a water quality program mandated by the federal government that includes permitting, compliance and enforcement activities relating to the discharge of pollutants. Under the Clean Water Act of 1972, the United States Environmental Protection Administration administers a number of programs to ensure water quality across the United States, including through the NPDES system. Individual states have the option of applying to the EPA for authorization to administer the programs themselves, subject to oversight by the EPA, or to have the federal government administer the program. (According to the Governor, 46 other states have already opted to administer the program themselves.) Under the NPDES legislation, the EPA currently issues stormwater permits to over 250 cities and towns across the Commonwealth, and hundreds of additional permits to industrial users and municipal wastewater treatment plants. This bill would move much of that permitting process locally to the Department of Environmental Protection, which already administers other federal environmental programs in the areas of drinking water, hazardous waste, and clean air. The bill makes a series of technical changes to the Massachusetts Clean Waters Act to bring our statute into conformity with federal requirements, and also gives DEP explicit authorization to apply for NPDES delegation.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 03/09/17 - H - Filed in the House

History: 03/09/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/13/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2907 - An Act relative to the development and promulgation of regulations governing underground storage tanks

Sponsor: Rep. Collins, Nicholas (D)

Cosponsors: No Cosponsors

Summary: Amends GL 21O, the statute governing Operation and Removal of Underground Storage Tanks, by adding a section creating the Underground Storage Tank Standards Board, responsible for developing and approving any regulations promulgated under this statute; designates the Commissioner of Environmental Protection as the Chairman of the Board; specifies the other members of the Board and their terms; provides for certain exceptions to Chapter 268A, the statute governing Conduct of Public Officials and Employees, for Board members.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)

Complete: 01/20/17 - H - Filed in the House

History: 03/20/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/20/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2909 - An Act relative to abandoned vessels on DCR property

Sponsor: Rep. Collins, Nicholas (D)

Cosponsors: Sen. Forry, Linda (D)

Summary: Amends GL 91:43A to require DCR to move any vessel that has become grounded within the harbor or on the Commonwealth's shores or any abandoned vessel or unauthorized structure or objects left in the Commonwealth's tide waters, whether or not the vessel, structure or object poses a threat to safe and convenient navigation; and authorizes DCR to become a claimant of such vessel, structure or object at any time after moving it and may apply for title thereto.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)

Complete: 01/20/17 - H - Filed in the House

History: 03/20/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/20/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2927 - An Act relative to inshore resource depletion

Sponsor: Rep. Kocot, Peter (D)

Cosponsors: No Cosponsors

Summary: Adds new §95A to GL 130, the statute governing Marine Fish and Fisheries, to require the director of the division of marine fisheries to promulgate regulations prohibiting the use of all midwater trawl and pair trawling for herring; authorizes the director to institute a system of fines for violations of this provision; further requires the director to establish herring fishery regulations that are compatible with regional efforts to rebuild groundfish resources; specifies several requirements said regulations should include.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)

Complete: 01/20/17 - H - Filed in the House

History: 03/20/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/20/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2931 - An Act relative to boating safety courses

Sponsor: Rep. Koczera, Robert (D)

Cosponsors: Rep. Ashe, Brian (D); Rep. Day, Michael (D); Rep. Garry, Colleen (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D); Rep. Silvia, Alan (D); Sen. Eldridge, James (D)

Summary: No Summary

Status: Filed in the House (FILE/H)

Complete: 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House

History:

HB2935 - An Act promoting awareness of safe recreation in public waterways

Sponsor: Rep. Provost, Denise (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Barber, Christine (D); Rep. Connolly, Mike (D); Rep. Dubois, Michelle (D); Rep. Keefe, Mary (D); Rep. Koczera, Robert (D); Rep. Rogers, David (D); Rep. Ryan, Daniel (D); Rep. Tosado, Jose (D); Rep. Walsh, Chris (D); Sen. Jehlen, Patricia (D); Sen. Moore, Michael (D)
Summary: Amends GL 21:43, the statute governing permit proceedings under the department of environmental management, to enumerate the requirement for permits and variance for CSO outfalls and provides a process for applying for a waiver of some of these requirements. Adds new section 43A to GL Chapter 21 to direct the department of environmental protection to establish and maintain a website to report CSO discharges to the public and lists the features and the data that the website should incorporate. Requires the department to issue an annual watershed CSO discharge report by April 15th of each year.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/20/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/20/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/20/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2943 - An Act relative to sustainable water conservation practices

Sponsor: Rep. Vieira, David (R)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Establishes within the Department of Environmental Protection an Irrigation Contractor Board of Registration; regulates composition of said board; regulates registration of irrigation contractors, applications for licenses, continuing education requirements, exemptions, business permits, qualifications and permit fees, suspensions or revocations or reissuing of licenses, and unlawful conduct and penalties.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/20/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/20/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/20/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB2945 - An Act relative to landfills and areas of critical environmental concern

Sponsor: Rep. Vincent, RoseLee (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Cantwell, James (D); Rep. Dubois, Michelle (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D); Rep. Rogers, David (D)
Summary: Prohibits the establishment or expansion of any form of landfill in or near an 'area of critical environmental concern,' as defined by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/20/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/20/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
03/20/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HB3349 - An Act to promote water conservation

Sponsor: Rep. Schmid, Paul (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. DeCoste, David (R); Rep. Fernandes, Dylan (D); Rep. Fiola, Carole (D); Rep. Kafka, Louis (D); Rep. Silvia, Alan (D); Sen. Gobi, Anne (D); Sen. Tarr, Bruce (R)
Summary: No Summary
Status: Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)
Complete 01/20/17 - H - Filed in the House
History: 03/20/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
03/20/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

HD1310 - An Act accelerating the renewable energy portfolio standard

Sponsor: Rep. Connolly, Mike (D)

Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: No Summary
Status: Filed in the House (FILE/H)
Complete 01/19/17 - H - Filed in the House
History:

SENATE BILLS

SUPPORT BILLS:

SB198 - An Act relative to a permanent annual sales tax holiday

MMTA testified in support of this bill last session and will support it again this session.

Sponsor: Sen. Tarr, Bruce (R)
Cosponsors: Sen. Fattman, Ryan (R)
Summary: Adds new Section 6A to GL 64H (Tax on Retail Sales of Certain Tangible Personal Property) to require the Commissioner of Revenue to annually designate a two day weekend in August during which no excise shall be imposed upon non-business retail sales of tangible personal property; exempts telecommunications, gas, steam electricity, motor vehicles, motorboats, meals or any single item whose price is in excess of \$2,500.
Status: Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies (JEC)
Complete 01/19/17 - S - Filed in the Senate
History: 02/22/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies
02/22/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB403 - An Act establishing a commission to study dredging needs for recreational boating in Commonwealth waterways

MMTA assisted in the drafting of this bill and supports this bill

Sponsor: Sen. Boncore, Joseph (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Berthiaume Jr., Donald (R); Rep. Gifford, Susan (R); Rep. Muratore, Mathew (R); Sen. Lovely, Joan (D); Sen. Moore, Michael (D)
Summary: Establishes a 9-member commission to study needed dredging for recreational boating; specifies the qualifications of the members of the Commission; directs the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs to provide the Commission with staff and other resources; directs the Commission to submit its findings and recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor within one year.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/18/17 - S - Filed in the Senate
History: 02/23/17 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - S - Concurred in committee referral

SB472 - An Act providing for the establishment of a comprehensive adaptation management plan in response to climate change

MMTA testified with concern over aspects of this bill but general support of the concept and will take the same approach this session.

Sponsor: Sen. Pacheco, Marc (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Calter, Thomas (D); Rep. Cantwell, James (D); Rep. Decker, Marjorie (D); Rep. Dykema, Carolyn (D); Rep. Ehrlich, Lori (D); Rep. Haddad, Patricia (D); Rep. Kaufman, Jay (D); Rep. Khan, Kay (D); Rep. Kocot, Peter (D); Rep. Koczera, Robert (D); Rep. Ryan, Daniel (D); Rep. Smizik, Frank (D); Rep. Walsh, Chris (D); Sen. Brady, Michael (D); Sen.

Summary: DiDomenico, Sal (D); Sen. Eldridge, James (D); Sen. Jehlen, Patricia (D); Sen. Lewis, Jason (D); Sen. Moore, Michael (D)
Enacts a new Chapter 21P (Comprehensive Adaptation Management Planning in Response to Climate Change) in the General Laws. The new chapter would require the adoption a Comprehensive Adaptation Management Action Plan. Upon the adoption of the plan, all certificates, licenses, permits, authorizations, grants, financial obligations, projects, plans, actions, and approvals for any proposed projects, uses, or activities in and by the Commonwealth must be consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the adopted plan. Among other things, the Plan must demonstrate how the commonwealth will increase alternative local renewable power sources that reduce dependence on centralized power plants; improve resiliency by protecting and restoring natural green infrastructure; incentivize development in low-risk locations away from coastal and inland flood plains and discouraging new development in high-risk locations; and improve resiliency of structures through an update of the state Building Code. In addition, the plan is to encourage and provide guidance to regional planning agencies to proactively address the unavoidable consequences of climate change and provide a process for local and regional climate vulnerability assessment and adaptation strategy development; regional grants are to be designed to reduce community risks and hazards as a result of climate change; the Commonwealth may acquire from willing sellers land abutting or adjacent to areas subject to the ebb and flow of the tide or on barrier beaches or in velocity zones of flood plain areas.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/19/17 - S - Filed in the Senate
History: 02/23/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB487 - An Act providing for alternative DPA compliance

MMTA will support this bill throughout the legislative session.

Sponsor: Sen. Tarr, Bruce (R)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Adds new section 5A to GL Chapter 21A to direct the secretary of the executive office of energy and environmental affairs and the special waterfront development oversight commission to comment on and approve proposals for development in Designated Port Authorities that do not meet strict compliance. Establishes said special waterfront development oversight commission, consisting of 7 members, to develop criteria for applicants to seek alternative compliance with regulations governing DPA.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/12/17 - S - Filed in the Senate
History: 02/23/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB1594 - An Act repealing the sales tax on boats built or rebuilt in the Commonwealth

MMTA testified in support of this bill last session and will support it again this session.

Sponsor: Sen. O'Connor, Patrick (R)
Cosponsors: Rep. Berthiaume Jr., Donald (R)
Summary: Amends GL 64H:6 (Exemptions from the Sales Tax) to exempt boats built or rebuilt and delivered in Massachusetts by Massachusetts craftsmen entirely from the sales tax.

Status: Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)
Complete 01/18/17 - S - Filed in the Senate
History: 02/22/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
02/22/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB1672 - An Act relative to the sales tax

MMTA will support this bill throughout the legislative session.

Sponsor: Sen. Timilty, James (D)

Cosponsors: No Cosponsors

Summary: Amends provisions of GL 64H (Sales Tax) both creating a sales tax holiday and lowering the tax back down to 5%. Specifically, the bill establishes a sales tax holiday to be held within the 2nd week of August, and the exemption is to include tangible personal property not including telecommunications, tobacco products, gas, steam, electricity, motor vehicles, motorboats, meals, or any single item whose price is in excess of \$2,500. Next, the sales tax and the consumption (or use) tax are both lowered from 6¼% to 5%; in addition, the formula for the consumption tax is changed so that each 10¢ provides an additional 1¢ of tax.

Status: Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)

Complete 01/19/17 - S - Filed in the Senate

History: 02/22/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
02/22/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

OPPOSITION BILLS:

SB463 - An Act relative to out of state mooring

MMTA testified in opposition of this bill last session and will oppose it again this session.

Sponsor: Sen. Moore, Michael (D)

Cosponsors: No Cosponsors

Summary: Amends GL 90B:2, the statute governing numbering of motorboats, to add that such vessels may be numbered according to a different system as long as the vessel is used predominantly outside the commonwealth or the owner has a property interest outside the commonwealth, in addition to the requirement that the vessel has been in the commonwealth for less than 60 days. Amends GL 90B:14, the statute governing penalties for violating motorboat statutes, to provide that violating the newly amended portion of section 2 will result in an additional fine equal to the amount of excise tax that would have been due on said vessel.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)

Complete 01/19/17 - S - Filed in the Senate

History: 02/23/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB1634 - An Act relative to the fairness of marine vessel reporting and fishermen exemptions

MMTA'S opposition to this bill is ongoing. Public hearing scheduled for April 10th in which we will testify in opposition to the proposed language. A redraft has been submitted with Senator Tarr's office.

Sponsor: Sen. Tarr, Bruce (R)

Cosponsors: Rep. Heroux, Paul (D); Rep. Howitt, Steven (R)

Summary: Amends GL 60B:3 to changes the exemption with respect to which kind of vessels are exempt from the excise on boats. Existing law provides that fishing boats of \$10,000 or less are exempt from the excise; this bill would raise that limit to \$50,000, but add a new proviso that 50% of the owner's income must come from commercial fishing. The bill also establishes that no owner of a vessel will be issued a registration decal or a renewal unless the owner has provided proof of payment of the excise. The bill additionally makes a number of technical amendments related to the administration of the excise.

Status: Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)
Complete 01/12/17 - S - Filed in the Senate
History: 02/22/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
02/22/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral
03/27/17 - Hearing Scheduled (4/10/17 1:00 PM - Joint Committee on Revenue B2)

OTHER RELEVANT BILLS:

SB201 - An Act to provide for loans for waterfront development

Sponsor: Sen. Tarr, Bruce (R)
Cosponsors: No Cosponsors
Summary: Authorizes the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency to spend an amount not to exceed ten million dollars for the purpose of making interest-free or low interest loans to rehabilitate existing infrastructure in waterfront areas; authorizes the State Treasurer to issue and sell bonds of the Commonwealth to fund this program.
Status: Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies (JEC)
Complete 01/19/17 - S - Filed in the Senate
History: 02/22/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies
02/22/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB1492 - An Act repealing the property tax exemption for Massport lessees

Sponsor: Sen. Barrett, Michael (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Ashe, Brian (D); Rep. Day, Michael (D); Rep. Gordon, Kenneth (D)
Summary: Amends section 17 of chapter 465 of the Acts of 1956 to provide that when the Massachusetts Port Authority leases real property, the property taxes are to be paid by the lessee as if the lessee were the owner of said property. Further provides that Massport is to be exempt from taxes except for those levied upon real property and is entitled to enter into agreements with the Boston Redevelopment Authority to make payments in lieu of taxes for such.
Status: Joint Committee on Revenue (JRV)
Complete 01/19/17 - S - Filed in the Senate
History: 02/22/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue
02/22/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB417 - An Act re-establishing the Clean Environment Fund

Sponsor: Sen. Donoghue, Eileen (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Hecht, Jonathan (D)
Summary: Adds Section 323F to GL 94 (Inspection and Sale of Food, Drugs and Various Articles) to re-establish the Clean Environment Fund for programs supporting the proper management of solid waste, water resource protection, parkland, urban forestry, air quality and climate protection; prohibits amounts from the Fund from being used for costs associated with incineration or any process which disposes of solid waste by combustion or conversion to combustion fuels.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/19/17 - S - Filed in the Senate
History: 02/23/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB423 - An Act improving municipal water infrastructure

Sponsor: Sen. Eldridge, James (D)
Cosponsors: Sen. Lewis, Jason (D)
Summary: No Summary
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/19/17 - S - Filed in the Senate
History: 02/23/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture

SB428 - An Act to enhance the management of problem wildlife

Sponsor: Sen. Gobi, Anne (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Cantwell, James (D); Rep. Hecht, Jonathan (D)
Summary: Amends provisions of GL 131:80A relative to leghold traps and certain other restricted devices by adding provisions that require any person issued a permit to report to the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, the name of the property owner, address of the property threatened by wildlife, the name of authorized agent, method used to alleviate the problem, and the number and species of animals taken pursuant to the permit.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/16/17 - S - Filed in the Senate
History: 02/23/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB433 - An Act expanding the powers of the director of Fisheries and Wildlife

Sponsor: Sen. Gobi, Anne (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Gifford, Susan (R); Rep. Orrall, Keiko (R); Rep. Scibak, John (D); Sen. Pacheco, Marc (D)
Summary: Amends GL 131:5 (Open Seasons: Rules and Regulations) to give the director of fisheries and wildlife the power to authorize an open season for the hunting of deer by bow and arrow on any date, including a Sunday or legal holiday; further requires that, if said open season period occurs in whole or in part within the last 3 months of the calendar year, it must be for a period of at least 7 consecutive days.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/19/17 - S - Filed in the Senate
History: 02/23/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB436 - An Act relative to public space recycling

Sponsor: Sen. Gobi, Anne (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Hecht, Jonathan (D); Rep. Kaufman, Jay (D); Rep. Keefe, Mary (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D); Sen. Donnelly, Kenneth (D); Sen. L'Italien, Barbara (D)
Summary: Amends section 5 of GL 115, the statute governing Veterans Benefits, by excluding increases in existing benefits from any calculation for public housing or any other public assistance program.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/18/17 - S - Filed in the Senate
History: 02/23/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB448 - An Act promoting awareness of safe recreation in public waterways

Sponsor: Sen. Jehlen, Patricia (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Cantwell, James (D); Rep. Connolly, Mike (D); Rep. Gordon, Kenneth (D); Rep. Keefe, Mary (D); Rep. Lewis, Jack (D); Rep. Livingstone, Jay (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D); Rep. Ryan, Daniel (D); Sen. DiDomenico, Sal (D); Sen. Eldridge, James (D)
Summary: Amends GL 21:43, the statute governing permit proceedings under the department of environmental management, to enumerate the requirement for permits and variance for CSO outfalls and provides a process for applying for a waiver of some of these requirements. Adds new section 43A to GL Chapter 21 to direct the department of environmental protection to establish and maintain a website to report CSO discharges to the public and lists the features and the data that the website should incorporate. Requires the department to issue an annual watershed CSO discharge report by April 15th of each year.
Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)
Complete 01/20/17 - S - Filed in the Senate
History: 02/23/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture

SB449 - An Act to reduce solid waste, increase recycling and generate municipal cost savings

Sponsor: Sen. Lewis, Jason (D)

Cosponsors: Rep. Decker, Marjorie (D); Rep. Keefe, Mary (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D); Rep. Ultrino, Steven (D); Rep. Walsh, Chris (D); Sen. DiDomenico, Sal (D); Sen. Eldridge, James (D)

Summary: Amends GL c.16 (Department of Highways) by adding provisions that generally are designed to reduce the amount of solid waste (a.k.a trash) in solid waste facilities (a.k.a. transfer stations or dumps). Specifically, the bill requires annual performance target goals for municipal solid waste reduction, based on total pounds of solid waste disposed per resident served per year; it requires all solid waste management facilities to remove and divert all waste ban materials to the greatest extent possible; it authorizes the Department of Environmental Protection and the communities hosting solid waste facilities to use action levels incorporated into certain regulations (310 CMR 19.017); it requires DEP and hosting communities to conduct frequent load inspections; and it requires DEP to collect a \$1.50/ton surcharge on all waste disposed of at a Solid Waste Disposal Facility to be used for the Zero Waste Fund and for the financing of recycling programs. (Note: it is generally a bad idea to reference or incorporate regulations into legislation.)

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)

Complete: 01/13/17 - S - Filed in the Senate

History: 02/23/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB452 - An Act for environmental, and water testing requirements, and funding thereof

Sponsor: Sen. Lewis, Jason (D)

Cosponsors: No Cosponsors

Summary: Adds a new unnamed and unnumbered 'chapter' to the General Laws (Environmental, and Water Testing Requirements, and Funding Thereof) requiring that environmental testing be 'enforceable' by 'appropriate funding, from public budgets, appropriate private compensations, and when needed, by appropriate court order'; creates a tax credit for voluntary funding of environmental tests.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)

Complete: 01/19/17 - S - Filed in the Senate

History: 02/23/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB479 - An Act relative to 2030 and 2040 emissions benchmarks

Sponsor: Sen. Pacheco, Marc (D)

Cosponsors: Rep. Calter, Thomas (D); Rep. Cariddi, Gailanne (D); Rep. Decker, Marjorie (D); Rep. Dubois, Michelle (D); Rep. Ehrlich, Lori (D); Rep. Goldstein-Rose, Solomon (D); Rep. Gonzalez, Carlos (D); Rep. Heroux, Paul (D); Rep. Higgins, Natalie (D); Rep. Kocot, Peter (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D); Rep. Ryan, Daniel (D); Sen. Brady, Michael (D); Sen. DiDomenico, Sal (D); Sen. Eldridge, James (D); Sen. Lewis, Jason (D)

Summary: Amends GL 21N:4, the statute governing adopting statewide greenhouse gas emissions limits, to provide that limits are to be set for the years 2030 and 2040 in addition to the limit already set for 2020.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)

Complete: 01/19/17 - S - Filed in the Senate

History: 02/23/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB481 - An Act relative to municipal water resources

Sponsor: Sen. Ross, Richard (R)

Cosponsors: Sen. Tarr, Bruce (R)

Summary: Directs the Department of Environmental Protection to assess its own authority to address the impact of municipal water withdrawal on nearby water sources, and report its findings to the Legislature by December 31, 2017.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)

Complete: 01/20/17 - S - Filed in the Senate

History: 02/23/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB484 - An Act to restore the public trust for tidelands

Sponsor: Sen. Tarr, Bruce (R)

Cosponsors: No Cosponsors

Summary: Adds new section 64 to GL Chapter 91 to prohibit DCR from delegating or allowing any other agency to review and grant applications for tidelands licenses. Articulates that DCR is the only agency with the authority to do so without express legislative approval.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)

Complete: 01/12/17 - S - Filed in the Senate

History: 02/23/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB485 - An Act relative to the removal and disposal of waste oil

Sponsor: Sen. Tarr, Bruce (R)

Cosponsors: No Cosponsors

Summary: Amends GL 21:52A by requiring any entity that wishes to accept waste oil or petroleum products for disposal from any automobile service station marina serving powered watercraft or retail outlet selling automobile lubricating oil in the Commonwealth must submit a plan for the removal and proper disposal of such materials with the Department of Environmental Protection; regulates penalties for violations at \$1,000 per offense.

Status: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture (JEN)

Complete: 01/12/17 - S - Filed in the Senate

History: 02/23/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
02/23/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB1330 - An Act relative to public safety in hoisting regulations

Sponsor: Sen. L'Italien, Barbara (D)

Cosponsors: Rep. Dubois, Michelle (D); Rep. Moran, Frank (D); Sen. Brady, Michael (D); Sen. McGee, Thomas (D)

Summary: Amends GL 146:53 (Hoisting Licenses) to clarify that the existing exemption from the requirements of the statute does not apply to a public utility company or other company during the course of an employee strike or lockout except during the period of a declared emergency by the governor.

Status: Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security (JPSF)

Complete: 01/19/17 - S - Filed in the Senate

History: 02/24/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security
02/24/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB1440 - An Act relative to harbormasters

Sponsor: Sen. O'Connor Ives, Kathleen (D)

Cosponsors: No Cosponsors

Summary: Amends GL32:3, the statute governing Membership in Public Retirement Systems, to allow a municipality to place its harbormaster in Group 4, if the harbormaster is certified by the harbormaster training council.

Status: Joint Committee on Public Service (JPSR)

Complete: 01/19/17 - S - Filed in the Senate

History: 02/22/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Public Service
02/22/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB1733 - An Act designating a certain state facility in the city of New Bedford as the New Bedford marine commerce terminal

Sponsor: Sen. Montigny, Mark (D)

Cosponsors: No Cosponsors

Summary: Designates the facility established by the Massachusetts Clean Energy Technology Center on certain parcels of land in the city of New Bedford as the New Bedford Marine Commerce Terminal; describes the parcels. No general or session laws cited.

Status: Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight (JSA)

Complete 01/19/17 - S - Filed in the Senate

History: 02/22/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight
02/22/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB1821 - An Act combating climate change

Sponsor: Sen. Barrett, Michael (D)

Cosponsors: Rep. Ashe, Brian (D); Rep. Atkins, Cory (D); Rep. Balsler, Ruth (D); Rep. Barber, Christine (D); Rep. Calter, Thomas (D); Rep. Campbell, Linda (D); Rep. Cariddi, Gailanne (D); Rep. Connolly, Mike (D); Rep. Crighton, Brendan (D); Rep. Decker, Marjorie (D); Rep. DiZoglio, Diana (D); Rep. Donahue, Daniel (D); Rep. Dubois, Michelle (D); Rep. Dykema, Carolyn (D); Rep. Farley-Bouvier, Tricia (D); Rep. Fernandes, Dylan (D); Rep. Garballey, Sean (D); Rep. Gentile, Carmine (D); Rep. Goldstein-Rose, Solomon (D); Rep. Gordon, Kenneth (D); Rep. Hecht, Jonathan (D); Rep. Heroux, Paul (D); Rep. Higgins, Natalie (D); Rep. Honan, Kevin (D); Rep. Kafka, Louis (D); Rep. Keefe, Mary (D); Rep. Khan, Kay (D); Rep. Kocot, Peter (D); Rep. Lewis, Jack (D); Rep. Linsky, David (D); Rep. Livingstone, Jay (D); Rep. Malia, Elizabeth (D); Rep. Matias, Juana (D); Rep. Peisch, Alice (D); Rep. Provost, Denise (D); Rep. Puppolo, Jr., Angelo (D); Rep. Rogers, David (D); Rep. Rushing, Byron (D); Rep. Ryan, Daniel (D); Rep. Scibak, John (D); Rep. Smizik, Frank (D); Rep. Stanley, Thomas (D); Rep. Tosado, Jose (D); Rep. Tucker, Paul (D); Rep. Vega, Aaron (D); Rep. Walsh, Chris (D); Sen. Boncore, Joseph (D); Sen. Brownsberger, William (D); Sen. Chang-Diaz, Sonia (D); Sen. Creem, Cynthia (D); Sen. Cyr, Julian (D); Sen. DiDomenico, Sal (D); Sen. Donnelly, Kenneth (D); Sen. Eldridge, James (D); Sen. Hinds, Adam (D); Sen. Jehlen, Patricia (D); Sen. Lewis, Jason (D); Sen. Rush, Michael (D)

Summary: Adds a number of provisions relative to GL c.25A (Division of Energy Resources), that are designed to combat climate change in the Commonwealth. In particular, the bill establishes carbon dioxide emissions charges, which are to be \$10 per ton of CO₂e. These charges are to increase by \$5 every year until the rate is \$40 per ton of CO₂e. In the sixth year of implementation, and every two years thereafter, the Commissioner of Energy Resources, in consultation with the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, is to report to the Legislature on global warming and climate change, including consideration of whether any increases or decreases in carbon dioxide emissions charges are recommended to account for inflation, to ensure progress towards reaching emissions limits for 2030, 2040, and 2050 included in the Climate Protection & Green Economy Act, to mitigate serious negative impacts on economic sectors, economic sub-sectors or individual employers of the Commonwealth caused by collection of carbon dioxide emissions charges. Separately, the bill establishes a Carbon Dioxide Emissions Charges Rebate Fund on the books of the Commonwealth, financed by the proposed charges. The commissioner of Energy Resources is then to return all carbon dioxide emissions charge proceeds to residents and employers in the Commonwealth in the form of rebates, in coordination with the Commissioner of Revenue and other agencies.

Status: Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (JTU)

Complete 01/19/17 - S - Filed in the Senate

History: 02/22/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
02/22/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB1843 - An Act further promoting energy efficiency and green jobs

Sponsor: Sen. Eldridge, James (D)

Cosponsors: Rep. Decker, Marjorie (D); Rep. Dubois, Michelle (D); Rep. Goldstein-Rose, Solomon (D); Rep. Gonzalez, Carlos (D); Rep. Heroux, Paul (D); Rep. Kocot, Peter (D); Rep. Smizik, Frank (D)

Summary: Adds a new section 35II½ to GL c.10 (State Treasurer) establishing an Oil Heat Energy Efficiency Fund on the books of the Commonwealth and funds it through a 'systems benefit assessment' of \$.025 per gallon on all gallons of oil heat fuel sold for residential or commercial

use; in Massachusetts in order to establish oil heat energy efficiency programs; requires that 20% of the funds collected be spent on comprehensive low-income residential oil heat energy efficiency and education programs; authorizes contracting with private agencies as 'energy efficiency program administrators' who, among other things, will assist in the preparation of an oil heat efficiency investment plan; the investment plan itself is required to include an assessment of the estimated lifetime cost, reliability and magnitude of all available energy efficiency resources that are cost effective or less expensive than supply, among other things.

Status: Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (JTU)
Complete 01/17/17 - S - Filed in the Senate
History: 02/22/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
02/22/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB1851 - An Act relative to renewable energy portfolio standards

Sponsor: Sen. Gobi, Anne (D)
Cosponsors: Sen. Hinds, Adam (D)
Summary: Amends provisions of GL 25A:11F relative to renewable energy portfolio standard for retail electricity suppliers by striking out provisions that exempt municipal lighting plants from the obligations of the section so long as they are exempt from the requirements to allow competitive choice of generation supply, and replaces it with provisions that at the time of filing for qualification as a renewable energy generating source, each new facility (or facilities increasing their capacity) must meet site-specific standards that insure adequate and healthy river flows, water quality standards, fish passage and protection measures and mitigation and enhancement opportunities in the impacted watershed. If such facilities are working under the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, then such facilities will be considered to be in compliance with these environmental standards.

Status: Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (JTU)
Complete 01/17/17 - S - Filed in the Senate
History: 02/22/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
02/22/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB1865 - An Act improving recycling in the Commonwealth

Sponsor: Sen. Moore, Michael (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Haddad, Patricia (D); Rep. Koczera, Robert (D); Rep. Orrall, Keiko (R); Sen. Rush, Michael (D)
Summary: Amends various provisions of the General Laws, to repeal the 5 cent bottle deposit/refund law and instead institutes a 1 cent recycling fee on all containers of carbonated, noncarbonated-alcoholic and noncarbonated-nonalcoholic drinks, except milk and dairy derived products, infant formula or medical food, to be paid by distributors/wholesalers, either quarterly or annually; provides that fees collected and abandoned deposit amounts to be used for litter prevention and removal, municipal recycling collection programs and programs to increase recycling at public facilities and urban parks district reservations; assesses manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors and dealers a 1½ % interest fee on late recycling fee payments; and subjects manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors and dealers to a \$1,000 civil fine for each violation of this act.

Status: Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (JTU)
Complete 01/17/17 - S - Filed in the Senate
History: 02/22/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
02/22/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral

SB1870 - An Act to protect our environment and update our climate action plan

Sponsor: Sen. Pacheco, Marc (D)
Cosponsors: Rep. Calter, Thomas (D); Rep. Dubois, Michelle (D); Rep. Ehrlich, Lori (D); Rep. Goldstein-Rose, Solomon (D); Rep. Gonzalez, Carlos (D); Rep. Hecht, Jonathan (D); Rep. Heroux, Paul (D); Rep. Kocot, Peter (D); Rep. Scibak, John (D); Sen. Brady, Michael (D); Sen. Creem, Cynthia (D); Sen. Eldridge, James (D)
Summary: This ambitious bill establishes that no power generating facility in operation on and after January 1, 2017 will be allowed to utilize or gasify coal, and no utility may purchase and seek to sell electricity, in or out of state, from coal-fired power plant facilities. Further requires the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs to publish a plan detailing how the

Commonwealth will provide support for all communities that hosted operational coal plants as of 2010, to enable a full site transition toward something that meets the needs of the towns as laid out by their elected municipal representatives; and how the Commonwealth will provide re-training and employment placement support for all currently unemployed workers who worked in a coal-burning power plant. Separately, the bill enacts a ban on hydraulic fracturing in the Commonwealth; require the identification of all the fossil fuel companies in which the Massachusetts Pension Reserves Investment Trust owns holdings, with a requirement to divest all publicly-traded holdings of each company identified within 5 years; requires the establishment of an economy-wide price on carbon; requires that the Department of Environmental Protection identify all Massachusetts public, private and agricultural enterprises providing methane emissions, and requires the promulgation of DEP regulations to encourage and provide incentives for increased use of anaerobic digesters; requires the Commonwealth as a whole to establish a goal of generating 20% of our total electricity use from solar energy by 2025; requires the promulgation of DER regulations to provide incentives to encourage increased use of smart meters; requires updating and strengthening the Stretch Energy Code; and requires the promulgation of regulations to develop and implement a clean fuel standard.

Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (JTU)

Status:

Complete

History:

01/19/17 - S - Filed in the Senate

02/22/17 - S - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/22/17 - H - Concurred in committee referral