

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**William G. Greene, Jr.**

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

**An Act relative to property damage caused by beaver.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:

William G. Greene, Jr.

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

22nd Middlesex

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 762 OF.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand and Nine**

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**AN ACT RELATIVE TO PROPERTY DAMAGE CAUSED BY BEAVER.**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Chapter 131 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby amended by  
2 adding after section 80A:— Section 80B: Notwithstanding the provisions of c. 131 §80A, the division of fisheries  
3 and wildlife within the department of fish and game is hereby authorized to conduct a limited pilot program to  
4 determine the most effective way to achieve a healthy and balanced population of beaver. The program shall be  
5 limited to the following counties: Berkshire; Essex; Franklin; Hampshire; Middlesex; and Worcester.  
6 The division shall promulgate such rules and regulations for the implementation and administration of this section.  
7 Records of the number of animals taken, the number of public nuisance complaints received, the method of taking,  
8 and the location of taking, shall be maintained by the division and reported annually to the Joint Committee on  
9 Natural Resources and Agriculture. Nothing in this section shall be construed to allow the use of the steel jaw  
10 leghold trap, padded leghold trap, and/or snares.  
11 The pilot program and department powers enumerated in this section shall expire on January 1, 2011.  
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