

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Peter v. Kocot

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:

Resolve relative to protecting the archaeological and fossil resources of Western Massachusetts.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Peter v. Kocot

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

1st Hampshire

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 787 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—————
In the Year Two Thousand and Nine
—————

RESOLVE RELATIVE TO PROTECTING THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND FOSSIL RESOURCES OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS.

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

RESOLVE RELATIVE TO PROTECTING THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND FOSSIL
RESOURCES OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS.

1

2

3 *Resolved,* There is hereby established a special commission on protecting the archaeological, geological,
4 and fossil resources of the Connecticut River Valley. Said special commission shall review existing special and
5 general laws, may hold hearings at various locations across the Commonwealth to obtain written and oral testimony
6 and may consult with state and federal agencies to determine if existing state laws and regulations adequately protect
7 the archaeological, geological and fossil resources located within the Connecticut River Valley. Said special
8 commission shall be comprised of three members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker, of
9 which at least two shall be from a district in western Massachusetts that includes a portion of the Connecticut river
10 that has significant fossil, archaeological or geological deposits; three members of the Senate, appointed by the
11 President, of which at least two shall be from a district in western Massachusetts that includes the Connecticut river;
12 four of whom shall be appointed by the Governor, of which one shall be a professor of archaeology at the University
13 of Massachusetts at Amherst, one of whom shall be a recognized authority on western Massachusetts geological
14 formations who is a professor at a Massachusetts college or university, one whom shall be an environmental police
15 officer who has experience with investigating the unlawful removal of archaeological, geological or fossil resources,
16 and one of whom shall be of native American descent of a tribe indigenous to western Massachusetts; one member
17 shall be appointed by the secretary of the commonwealth, who shall be knowledgeable of the archaeological and
18 historic resources of the Connecticut river valley.
19 Said special commission may receive funding through state appropriation or grants, federal appropriation or grants,
20 private gifts and donations, provided, that said special commission shall file its report with the joint committee on
21 natural resources and agriculture and the clerks of the House and Senate no later than October 1, 2010.

22

23

24

25