

HOUSE No. 2302

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Josh S. Cutler and Sarah K. Peake

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the discharge of spent fuel pool water.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/10/2023</i>
<i>Sarah K. Peake</i>	<i>4th Barnstable</i>	<i>1/18/2023</i>
<i>Kathleen R. LaNatra</i>	<i>12th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/24/2023</i>
<i>Carol A. Doherty</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>	<i>2/2/2023</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/7/2023</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>Mathew J. Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>	<i>2/15/2023</i>
<i>Vanna Howard</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/27/2023</i>
<i>Natalie M. Blais</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>	<i>3/2/2023</i>
<i>Dylan A. Fernandes</i>	<i>Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket</i>	<i>3/8/2023</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>3/14/2023</i>

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By Representatives Cutler of Pembroke and Peake of Provincetown, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2302) of Josh S. Cutler, Sarah K. Peake and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) to examine the potential negative environmental and economic impacts caused by the discharge of spent fuel pool water created as a waste product of nuclear energy. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act relative to the discharge of spent fuel pool water.

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) Notwithstanding any special or general law to the contrary, there shall
2 be a special commission to examine the potential negative environmental and economic impacts
3 caused by the discharge of spent fuel pool water, any materials created as a waste product of
4 nuclear energy from spent fuel pools, including, but not limited to, processed water or any other
5 liquid with elevated levels of radioactivity, including, but not limited to, tritium or boron,
6 associated with the decommissioning of any nuclear power plant, into the waters of the
7 commonwealth. Waters of the commonwealth shall include all waters under the jurisdiction of
8 the division of marine fisheries, including, but not limited to, bays, coastal waters, canals, rivers
9 and streams.

10 (b) The commission shall consist of the following 13 members: the attorney general or a
11 designee, who shall serve as co-chair; the governor or a designee; the secretary of the executive

12 office of energy and environmental affairs or a designee, who shall serve as co-chair; the senate
13 president or a designee; the speaker of the house of representatives or a designee; the senate
14 minority leader or a designee; the house of representatives minority leader or a designee; the
15 chairs of the joint committee on the environment, natural resources and agriculture or their
16 designees; the commissioner of the department of environmental protection or a designee; the
17 commissioner of the department of public health or a designee; the executive director of the
18 office of travel and tourism or a designee; and the director of the division of marine fisheries or a
19 designee.

20 (c) The commission shall: (i) examine and investigate the potential environmental and
21 economic impacts, including impacts to consumer perception of the discharge spent fuel
22 wastewater on the fishing, aquaculture, tourism, restaurant industries and other sectors deemed
23 appropriate by the commission; and (ii) make recommendations on measures to mitigate or avoid
24 potential negative impacts on such industries.

25 (d) The commission shall hold not less than 4 listening sessions, with not less than 1
26 listening session in the following counties: Dukes, Plymouth, Bristol and Barnstable; provided,
27 however, that upon the completion of its report under this section, the commission shall provide
28 a public presentation in said counties. Not later than November 1, 2024 the commission shall file
29 a report on the results of its study with the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate,
30 the joint committee on environment, natural resources and agriculture, the joint committee on
31 public health, the joint committee on tourism, arts and cultural development, the joint committee
32 on economic development and emerging technologies and the senate and house committees on
33 ways and means.

34 (e) There shall be no discharge of spent fuel pool water, any materials created as a waste
35 product of nuclear energy from spent fuel pools, including, but not limited to, processed water or
36 any other liquid with elevated levels of radioactivity, including, but not limited to, tritium or
37 boron into the waters of the commonwealth until 90 days after the issuance of the commission's
38 report.