

HOUSE No. 1134

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James M. Cantwell

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 to permit the scattering of unclaimed cremated remains at sea.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

James M. Cantwell

4th Plymouth

Josh S. Cutler

6th Plymouth

HOUSE No. 1134

By Mr. Cantwell of Marshfield, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1134) of James M. Cantwell and Josh S. Cutler for legislation to permit the scattering of unclaimed cremated remains at sea. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act to permit the scattering of unclaimed cremated remains at sea.

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 43M of chapter 114 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 14, the following words:-

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4 "Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, a funeral establishment in
5 possession of the cremated remains of a human body which is not claimed by a next-of-kin or
6 duly authorized representative within 12 months after the date of cremation may have the
7 remains interred or placed in a common grave, niche, or crypt in a cemetery, or scattered in an
8 area of the cemetery designated for that purpose;"

9 and, inserting in place thereof the following words:

10 "Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, a funeral establishment in
11 possession of the cremated remains of a human body which is not claimed by a next-of-kin or

12 duly authorized representative within 12 months after the date of cremation may have the
13 remains interred or placed in a common grave, niche, or crypt in a cemetery, scattered in an area
14 of the cemetery designated for that purpose, or scattered at sea;"