

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1520**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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PRESENTED BY:

***David M. Nangle, (BY REQUEST)***

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*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 to increase the fines and penalties on the practice of shark-finning.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Sean Lesniak*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*20 Wollaston St.*

*Lowell, MA 01852-1640*

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By Mr. Nangle of Lowell (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1520) of Sean Lesniak for legislation to prohibit the taking of sharks for the purpose of removing their fins and establishing a penalty for violations. The Judiciary.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**

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An Act to increase the fines and penalties on the practice of shark-finning.

*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. Chapter 130, as appearing General Laws is hereby amended adding the  
2 following new section :-

3 Section 103. No person shall take engage in shark-finning, defined as taking of a shark,  
4 removing the fin or fins (whether or not including the tail) of a shark, and returning the remained  
5 of the shark to the sea.

6 Whoever violates any provision of this section shall be punished, in addition to any  
7 punishment for violation of federal law, by imprisonment for sixty days or by a fine of not less  
8 than five hundred nor more than one thousand dollars, or by both such imprisonment and fine.