

HOUSE No. 2924

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the Connecticut River rowing facility.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Peter V. Kocot

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

1st Hampshire

HOUSE No. 2924

By Mr. Kocot of Northampton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2924) of Peter V. Kocot relative to the Connecticut River rowing facility. Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2995 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act relative to the Connecticut River rowing facility.

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 29 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting the
2 following section:-

3 "Section 2FFFF Connecticut River Boathouse and Rowing Facility Construction Fund".

4 SECTION 2. There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a
5 separate fund to be known as the Connecticut River Boathouse and Rowing Facility Construction
6 Fund, which shall be expended by the city of Northampton, to develop a public rowing and
7 regatta center on the Connecticut River in the city of Northampton. The city shall establish a
8 memorandum of understanding with adjacent communities, Northampton Youth and Community
9 Rowing, Inc. and public and private institutions and organizations to establish a governing body
10 to oversee its operations, to lease portions of the facility to appropriate users and to promote

11 youth and adult rowing teams and events for all ages. The operational costs of said facility shall
12 be not be paid by the commonwealth.

13 The fund shall receive monies from: (1) gifts, grants, appropriations and donations from
14 public or private sources; (2) federal reimbursements and grants-in-aid; (3) any interest earned
15 from the fund; and (4) state appropriations and the proceeds of any general or special obligation
16 bond sales by the commonwealth authorized for this purpose. The state treasurer shall receive,
17 deposit and invest funds held in such a manner as to ensure the highest interest rate available
18 consistent with the safety of the fund. The books and records of the fund shall be subject to an
19 annual audit by the state auditor. The city may expend such funds, not subject to appropriation,
20 and no expenditure from the fund shall cause it to be in deficiency at the close of a fiscal year.
21 The city shall report annually to the house and senate committees on ways and means on income
22 received into the fund and the sources of that income, any expenditure from the fund and their
23 purposes and fund balances.

24 SECTION 3: Not less than \$2,500,000 shall be expended from the Gaming Economic
25 Development Fund, established in Chapter 29, section 2DDDD of the General Laws, and not less
26 than \$2,500,000 shall be expended from the Local Capital Projects Fund, established in Chapter
27 29, section 2EEEE of the General Laws, and shall be deposited in the Connecticut River
28 Boathouse and Rowing Facility Construction Fund for the construction of the Connecticut River
29 Boathouse and Rowing Facility in the city of Northampton.