

HOUSE No. 765

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:

An Act Prohibiting Clear Cutting in State Forests and Parks.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Peter v. Kocot

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

1st Hampshire

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT PROHIBITING CLEAR CUTTING IN STATE FORESTS AND PARKS.

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. Section 7 of Chapter 21a of the general Laws is hereby amended by inserting at the end
2 thereof the following:—"...provided, that the secretary shall prohibit the clear cutting of any forested lands
3 under his care and custody, unless necessary to eradicate harmful and invasive insect species. For the
4 purposes of this section, clear cutting shall be defined as the harvesting of more than seventy-five percent
5 of trees within an area and/or contiguous parcels greater than one acre."

6 SECTION 2. Section 40 of Chapter 132 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting at the end
7 thereof the following:—"...therefore, it is the policy of the Commonwealth to prohibit clear cutting on all
8 state owned lands and lands under the authority of all public and quasi-public authorities, including, but
9 not limited to the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, the Department of Conservation and
10 Recreation, the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife and all municipal watershed properties with
11 conservation protection easements purchased by the commonwealth."