

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 780**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

*Ann-Margaret Ferrante*

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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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act to establish a commercial fishing permit bank in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Ann-Margaret Ferrante*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*5th Essex*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 780**

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By Ms. Ferrante of Gloucester, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 780) of Ann-Margaret Ferrante for legislation to direct the Department of Agriculture to establish a commercial fishing permit bank. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2124 OF 2017-2018.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
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An Act to establish a commercial fishing permit bank in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

*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. The first paragraph of section 2 of chapter 128 of the General Laws, as  
2 appearing in the 2012 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following clause:-

3           (h) purchase any federal fishery permit issued pursuant to 50 CFR part 600 et seq. from  
4 any permit holder to the extent that such permit is transferrable under federal law.

5           SECTION 2. Chapter 130 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the  
6 following section:-

7           Section 107. The department of agricultural resources shall establish and implement a  
8 commercial fishing permit bank whereby the department shall maintain any federal fishery  
9 permits it purchases pursuant to clause (h) of section 2 of chapter 128. The department of

10 agricultural resources may resell or lease the rights of any federal fishery permit maintained in  
11 the permit bank to any existing federal fishery permit holder doing business in the  
12 commonwealth; provided, however that the department shall, upon a sale of any such permit  
13 maintained in the permit bank, provide a right of first refusal to the permit holder that originally  
14 sold such permit to the department for inclusion in the permit bank. The department of  
15 agricultural resources shall promulgate any rules and regulations necessary for the  
16 implementation of this section.