

**SENATE . . . . . No. 454**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Brendan P. Crighton***

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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 establishing a special commission to study the noise effects of hunting migratory game birds in neighborhoods and communities within established coastal zones.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Brendan P. Crighton*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Third Essex*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 454**

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By Mr. Crighton, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 454) of Brendan P. Crighton for legislation to establish a special commission to study the noise effects of hunting migratory game birds in neighborhoods and communities within established coastal zones. Environment and Natural Resources.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 508 OF 2021-2022.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

—————  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**  
—————

An Act establishing a special commission to study the noise effects of hunting migratory game birds in neighborhoods and communities within established coastal zones.

*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. There is hereby established a special commission to study the noise effects  
2 of hunting migratory game birds in neighborhoods and communities located in established  
3 coastal zones.

4           SECTION 2. The commission shall study and assess the impacts, specific to noise, that  
5 persons hunting migratory game birds from a water craft have on the residents of neighborhoods  
6 and communities immediately located within the coastal zones established by the Department of  
7 Fish and Games. The commission shall also study the regulated distance that a person hunting  
8 from a water craft is required to be located from land to determine if this amount needs to be  
9 increased.

10 SECTION 3. The commission shall consist of a member of the Senate appointed by the  
11 President of the Senate; a member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of  
12 the House of Representatives; a member of the Senate appointed by the Senate Minority Leader;  
13 a member of the House of Representatives appointed by the House Minority leader; the Secretary  
14 of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs or his designee who shall serve as  
15 Chairman of the commission; the Commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game or his  
16 designee; The Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue or his designee; a  
17 representative from the sports hunting industry to be appointed by the Commissioner of the  
18 Department of Fish and Game; The members of the commission shall be appointed not later July  
19 3, 2023.

20 SECTION 4. The commission shall hold public meetings in Newburyport, Nahant,  
21 Marshfield and Cape Cod to assist in the collection and evaluation of data and testimony.

22 SECTION 5. The commission shall prepare a written report detailing its findings and  
23 recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry those  
24 recommendations into effect. The commission shall submit its report to the governor, the  
25 secretary of the commonwealth, the Senate President and Speaker of the House, the Chairmen of  
26 the Joint Committee on Natural Resources, the House and Senate Chairman of the Ways and  
27 Means Committees, the Chairmen of the Joint Committee on Revenue, and the Chairmen of the  
28 Joint Committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development not later than December 31, 2023.