

By Mr. Piro of Somerville, petition of Vincent J. Piro relative to further clarifying the environmental assessment process for certain works, projects and activities of the Commonwealth. Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Six.

AN ACT FURTHER CLARIFYING THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR CERTAIN WORKS, PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

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 sixty-two of chapter thirty of the general laws is hereby
2 amended by deleting the fifth paragraph and inserting in place
3 thereof the following new paragraph:

4 The secretaries of the executive offices shall promulgate rules
5 and regulations approved by the secretary of environmental
6 affairs to carry out the purposes of this section which shall be
7 applicable to all agencies, departments, boards, commissions,
8 authorities or instrumentalities within each of such executive
9 offices and shall conform with the requirements of the National
10 Environmental Policy Act Pub. Law 91-190, and amendments
11 thereto. Any draft report, final report and all written comments
12 required by such regulations for works, projects and activities
13 subject to said National Environmental Policy Act shall be
14 submitted to the appropriate federal authority for review,
15 comment and approval in accordance with the terms of said act,
16 and shall be made public documents. Draft reports, final reports
17 and written comments for any works, projects or activities not
18 subject to said National Environmental Policy Act, and not
19 otherwise exempt from the provisions of this section, shall be
20 submitted to the secretary of environmental affairs who shall
21 issue a written statement indicating whether or not in his

22 judgement said reports adequately and properly comply with the
23 provisions of this section. The secretary of environmental affairs
24 may, upon the request of the Governor or the secretary of any
25 executive office, declare any work, project or activity otherwise
26 subject to this section to be emergency in nature, and exempt
27 from the operation of this section.