

By Mr. Wetmore, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1054) of Jeannette Baillargeon, Stanley R. Ropiak, Albert Peloquin and Robert D. Wetmore for legislation to establish a matching fund program for assistance to the cities and towns in fighting gypsy moth infestation. Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-one.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS OF AN AMOUNT CERTIFIED BY SUCH SECRETARY TO BE DISBURSED AS MATCHING FUNDS TO THE FUNDS PLANNED TO BE EXPENDED BY CITIES AND TOWNS IN FIGHTING GYPSY MOTH INFESTATIONS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Notwithstanding any other law, general or special, or any
2 rule or regulation to the contrary, any city or town in need
3 of financial assistance in fighting a gypsy moth infestation
4 within its boundaries, which infestations are growing to dan-
5 gerous proportions within the commonwealth, may apply to
6 the secretary of the executive office of environmental affairs
7 for matching funds to those being expended or planned to be
8 expended by said city or town in a spraying program and other
9 programs designed to halt and destroy such infestations. The
10 said secretary shall establish priorities based upon the partic-
11 ular problem and specific plans set forth in each application
12 made for such assistance by the cities and towns, and upon
13 certification by said secretary to the treasurer of the com-
14 monwealth of the amount of funds necessary to provide the
15 financial aid necessary, the treasurer shall pay to the said
16 secretary said amount for disbursement in accordance with the
17 said established priorities from any available funds, or to the
18 amount necessary, from the general fund.

