

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 389**

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By Mr. Landry of Waltham, petition of Richard E. Landry and Francis X. McCann for legislation relative to improvements of the water quality of the Charles River. Natural Resources and Agriculture.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

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**AN ACT RELATIVE TO IMPROVEMENTS OF THE WATER QUALITY OF THE CHARLES RIVER.**

*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 metropolitan district commission, herein-  
2 after called the commission is hereby authorized and directed  
3 to construct treatment plants, baffles, fish ladders and other  
4 projects and works, and to dredge and improve the channel  
5 configuration, including the shores and banks of the Charles  
6 River, and to control and treat the waters of and such over-  
7 flows, inflows and drainage into, said Charles River as may be  
8 required to improve the quality of the water therein and  
9 improve, protect and restore the natural environment of the  
10 river. The commission may make application for federal assis-  
11 tance in the construction of any project authorized by this act  
12 and any federal funds to be received shall be credited to the  
13 metropolitan district commission park funds and be used to  
14 pay debt service costs incurred as authorized by this act.

1 SECTION 2. The commission, for the purposes of this act,  
2 may, on behalf of the commonwealth, take by eminent domain  
3 under chapter seventy-nine of the General Laws, or acquire by  
4 purchase or otherwise, any lands, waters, waterrights, water-  
5 courses, rights of way, easements, or other property or interest in

6 property, and shall have all the rights, powers and duties and be  
7 subject to the limitations of section thirty-two of chapter  
8 ninety-two of the General Laws; provided, however, that cities  
9 and towns in the area or areas within which construction may  
10 occur shall grant to the commission the right to enter upon any  
11 public land and to construct such facilities as may be necessary  
12 without recourse to damages therefor. The commission, however,  
13 shall, as provided in said section thirty-two heed all reasonable  
14 requests of officials of said cities and towns to restore such  
15 public property to its present condition as far as is practicable.

1 SECTION 3. To meet the expenditures necessary in  
2 carrying out the provisions of this act, the state treasurer shall,  
3 upon request of the governor, issue and sell at public or private  
4 sale bonds of the commonwealth, registered or with interest  
5 coupons attached, as he may deem best, to an amount to be  
6 specified by the governor from time to time, but not exceed-  
7 ing, in the aggregate, the sum of seven million dollars. Such  
8 bonds shall be designated on the face, Charles River Water  
9 Quality Loan Act of 1971, and shall be on the serial payment  
10 plan for such maximum term of years, not exceeding twenty  
11 years, as the governor may recommend to the general court  
12 pursuant to section three of Article LXII of the Amendments to  
13 the Constitution of the Commonwealth, the maturities thereof to  
14 be so arranged that the amounts payable in the several years of  
15 the period of amortization other than the final year shall be as  
16 nearly equal as in the opinion of the state treasurer it is  
17 practicable to make them. Said bonds shall bear interest  
18 semi-annually at such rate as the state treasurer, with the  
19 approval of the governor, shall fix. The initial maturities of such  
20 bonds shall be payable not later than one year from the date of  
21 issue thereof and the entire issue not later than June thirtieth,  
22 nineteen hundred and ninety-six. All interest payments and  
23 payments on account of principal on such obligations shall be  
24 paid from the metropolitan district commission park funds. to be  
25 assessed by methods fixed by law.

1 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.