

By Mr. Wetmore of Barre, petition of Robert D. Wetmore, John S. Ames, III, Richard H. Demers, Robert W. Gillette, Carter D. Kimbrel and David J. Mofenson for the declaration of a policy of population, planning and stabilization by a voluntary means in the Commonwealth. Social Welfare.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

RESOLVE DECLARING A MASSACHUSETTS POLICY OF POPULATION,
PLANNING AND STABILIZATION BY A VOLUNTARY MEANS.

1 *Whereas*, Every state's finite space and resources will
2 necessarily and inevitably cause human population to stabilize;
3 and

4 *Whereas*, The adoption of public policies to reduce the birth
5 rate voluntarily in a manner consistent with human rights and
6 individual conscience is the most moral and democratic way to
7 insure that such stabilization is not forced upon the states by
8 crisis; and

9 *Whereas*, All citizens of Massachusetts seek a state with a
10 healthy environment, clean air and water, uncluttered land,
11 plentiful open spaces, natural beauty, and wilderness and wild-
12 life in variety and abundance, in which the dignity of human
13 life is enhanced; and

14 *Whereas*, Unchecked population growth increases the diffi-
15 culty and cost of solving the social, economic, and political
16 problems of Massachusetts, and coupled with modern tech-
17 nology and standards of living, contributes to the pollution and
18 degradation of the environment; and

19 *Whereas*, It is by its own example, that Massachusetts can
20 play a leading role in the curbing of unwise population growth;
21 and now, therefore, be it

22 *Resolved* by the General Court of the Commonwealth of
23 Massachusetts, that the policy of all political subdivisions,
24 cabinet level secretaries and planning officers of the Common-
25 wealth to encourage and develop, the necessary attitudes and
26 policies, and to implement them by actions which will, by

27 voluntary means consistent with human rights and individual
 28 conscience, stabilize the population of the Commonwealth and
 29 thereby promote the future well-being of her citizens.