

By Mr. Cahoon of Chatham, petition of Howard C. Cahoon, Jr., for legislation to modify the matching program of financial assistance to cities and towns for shellfish propagation. Natural Resources and Agriculture.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

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AN ACT TO MODIFY A MATCHING PROGRAM OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE CITIES AND TOWNS FOR SHELLFISH PROPAGATION.

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

1 Chapter 130 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking  
2 out section 20A and inserting in place thereof the following sec-  
3 tion: —

4 *Section 20A.* The director shall assist and cooperate with coast-  
5 al cities and towns for the purpose of establishing and maintaining  
6 a program of assistance in the form of grants to said cities and  
7 towns for the cultivation, propagation, and protection of shellfish.  
8 Funds to carry out the purposes of this act shall annually be  
9 appropriated from the general fund. The director may expend such  
10 sums as may be appropriated, but such sums as are expended,  
11 therefor, shall not exceed two thirds of the city or town's annual  
12 expenditure for the cultivation, propagation, and protection of  
13 shellfish in the preceding year.

14 No grant shall be issued hereunder to a city or town for the  
15 purpose of cultivation, propagation, and protection of shellfish  
16 unless said city or town has filed with the division a copy of its  
17 shellfish management plan. No city or town shall be eligible for a  
18 grant hereunder until such management plan has been approved by  
19 the Director.

20 The treasurer of each participating city or town shall annually  
21 certify to the director the amounts appropriated by said city or  
22 town and the total amount expended by said city or town for the  
23 cultivation, propagation and protection of shellfish.

