

HOUSE No. 1174

By Mr. Stoddart of Natick, petition of Douglas W. Stoddart relative to construction and development in watershed areas by the Water Resources Authority. Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE MASSACHUSETTS WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY.

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

- 1 The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, when engaging
- 2 in any type of construction within five hundred yards of a region
- 3 designated by a city or town as an aquifer, watershed area, or
- 4 water supply shall use the highest and best technology equipment
- 5 and manpower to monitor, detect and prevent leaks or to prevent
- 6 any change in the water table or contamination to the aquifer.
- 7 Notwithstanding the foregoing, if any city or town notifies the
- 8 said authority in writing that their construction has contaminated
- 9 said city's or town's aquifer, watershed area, or water supply, the
- 10 said city or town and said authority shall determine the extent of
- 11 liability and damages, if any, by binding arbitration within six
- 12 months of said allegation and during said six-month period said
- 13 authority shall provide drinking water to said town.

